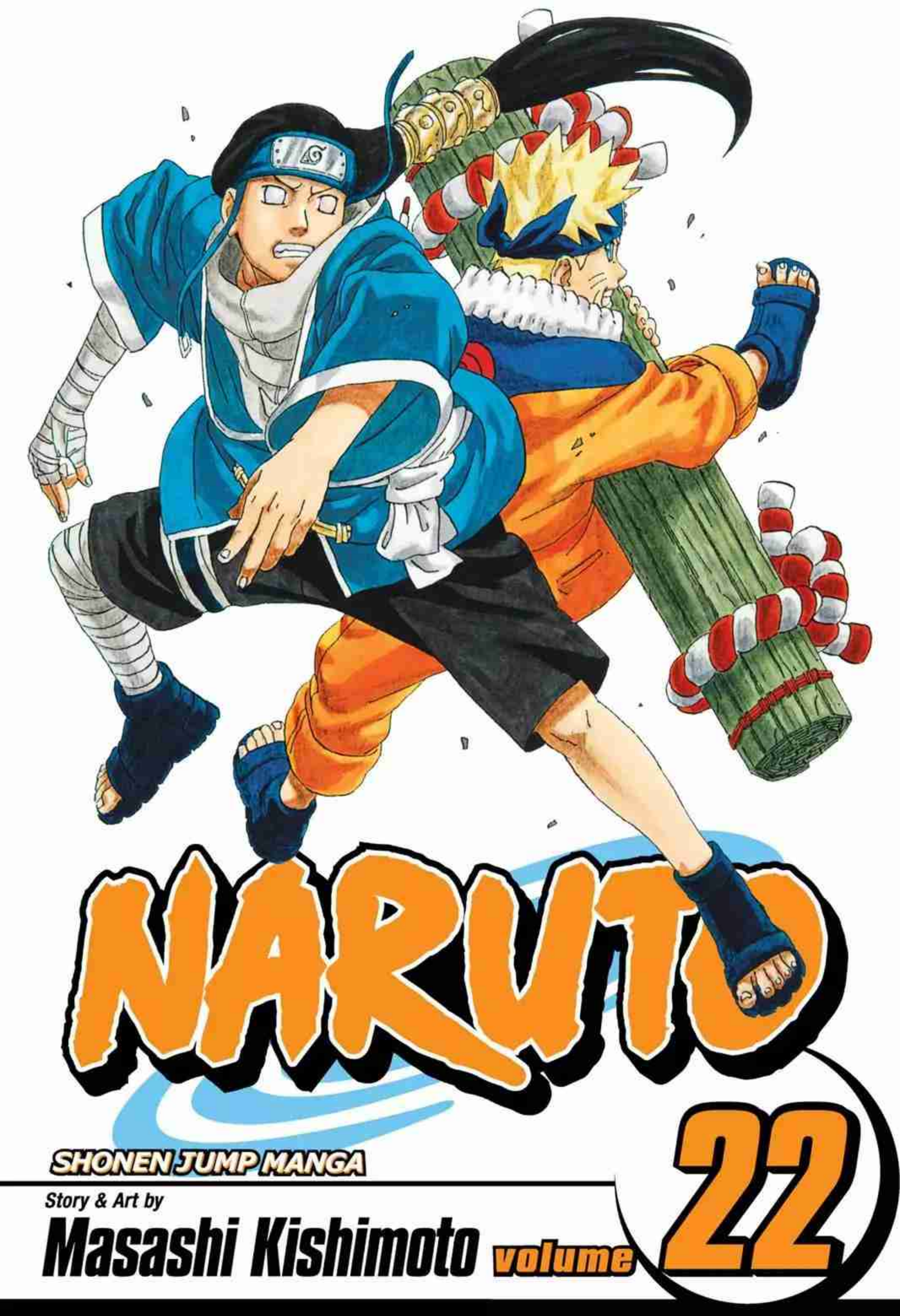
NARUTO
SHONEN JUMP MANGA
Story & Art by
Masashi Kishimoto
volume 22

Oh man, it's spring! I always get sleepy in spring... I'm just sleepy... so slee... ...zzz.

—*Masashi Kishimoto, 2004*

岸本斉史

Author/artist Masashi Kishimoto was born in 1974 in rural Okayama Prefecture, Japan. After spending time in art college, he won the Hop Step Award for new manga artists with his manga **Karakuri** (Mechanism). Kishimoto decided to base his next story on traditional Japanese culture. His first version of **Naruto**, drawn in 1997, was a one-shot story about fox spirits; his final version, which debuted in **Weekly Shonen Jump** in 1999, quickly became the most popular ninja manga in Japan.

**NARUTO VOL. 22**
**The SHONEN JUMP Manga Edition**

STORY AND ART BY MASASHI KISHIMOTO

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NARUTO is rated T for Teen and is recommended for ages 13 and up. This volume contains realistic and fantasy violence.

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SHONEN JUMP MANGA EDITION

# NARUTO

VOL. 22
COMRADES

STORY AND ART BY
MASASHI KISHIMOTO

# CHARACTERS

Sasuke
サスケ

Naruto
ナルト

Sakura
サクラ

## The Sound Ninja Four
## 音の四人衆

## The Story So Far…

Twelve years ago, a destructive nine-tailed fox spirit attacked the ninja village of Konohagakure. The Hokage, or village champion, defeated the fox by sealing its soul into the body of a baby boy. Now that boy, Uzumaki Naruto, has grown up to become a ninja-in-training, learning the art of ninjutsu with his teammates Sakura and Sasuke. During the Second Chûnin Exam, Naruto and the others were attacked by Orochimaru, who left a curse mark on Sasuke and vanished…

Naruto and Sasuke proceeded to the Chûnin Exam Finals, but in the middle of the Sasuke vs. Gaara battle, Orochimaru and company launch *Operation Destroy Konoha*, which was stopped when the Third Hokage sacrificed his own life.

Sasuke, healed by Tsunade, who has become the Fifth Hokage, leaves Konoha Village with the Sound Ninja Four… The quintet of Shikamaru, Naruto, Choji, Kiba, and Neji hastily set out after them…!

# NARUTO

## VOL. 22
## COMRADES

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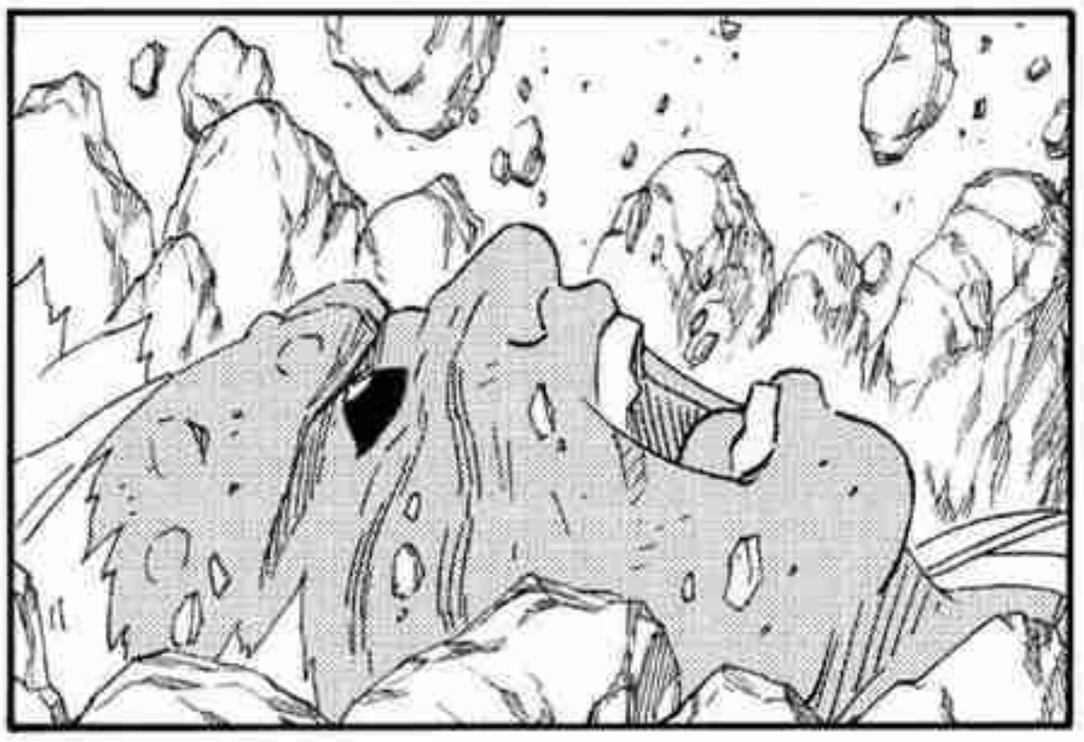
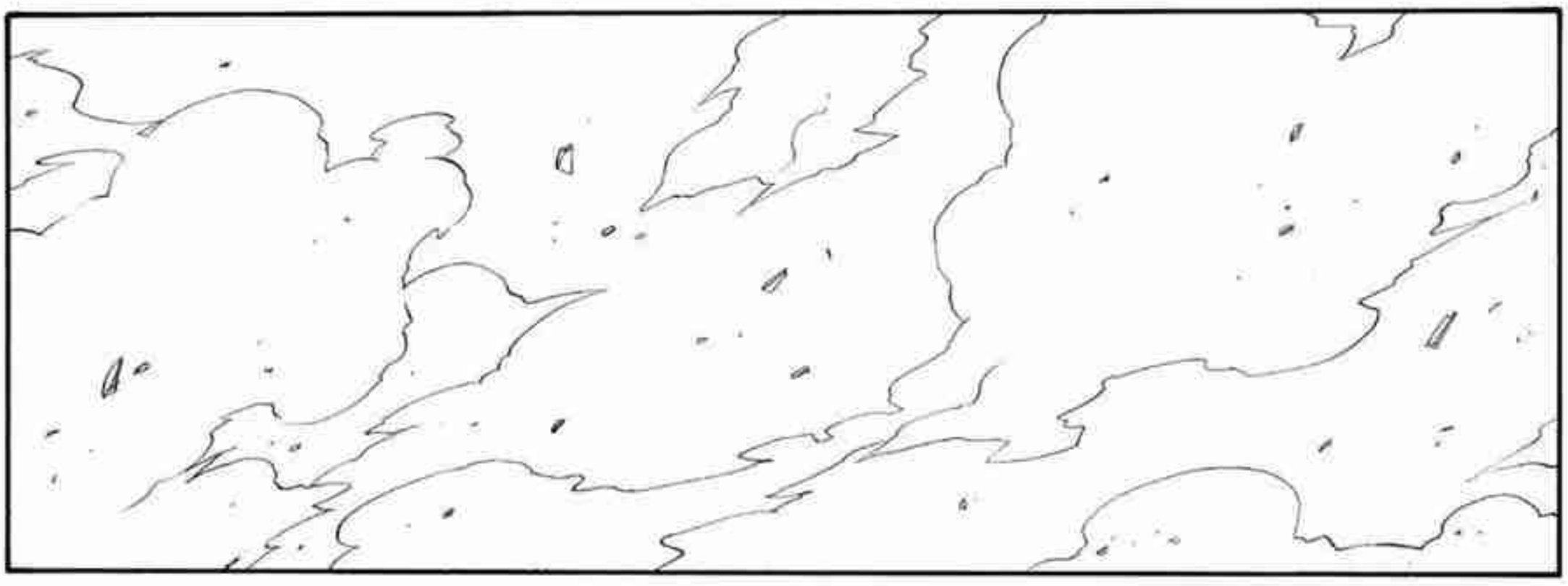
# Number 191: Comrades...!!

SLAM!!!



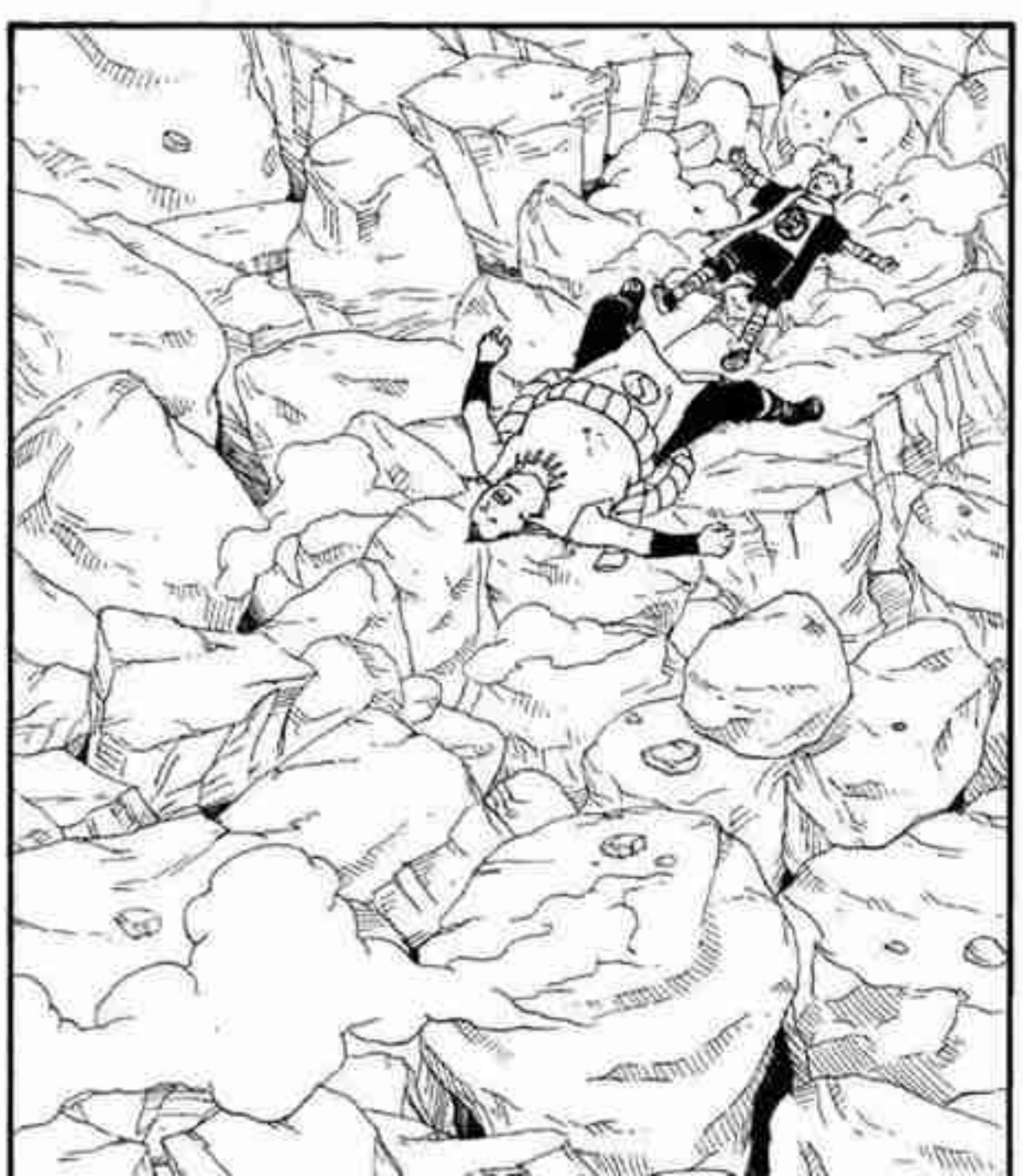


READ THIS WAY
SHH...

WHOOOOSH...

FSST...

UNGH...
HUF
HUF



THUMP

I DID IT... I ACTUALLY WON!

HUF

HUF

I WON...

HEY, YOU...

HUF

HUF

HUF HUF

UNNH...

UGH...!

HUF

HUF

HUF

...

...!

HUF

HUF

READ
THIS
WAY

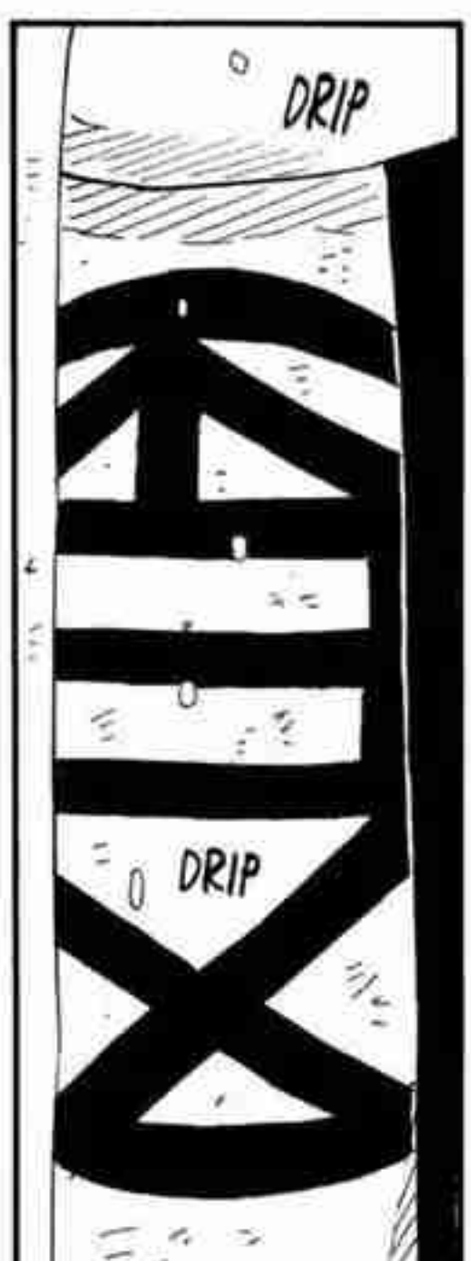
WHEN THAT HAPPENS, YOU TREASURE THAT FRIEND.
SOONER OR LATER YOU'LL FIND A FRIEND WHO SEES THAT IN YOU.

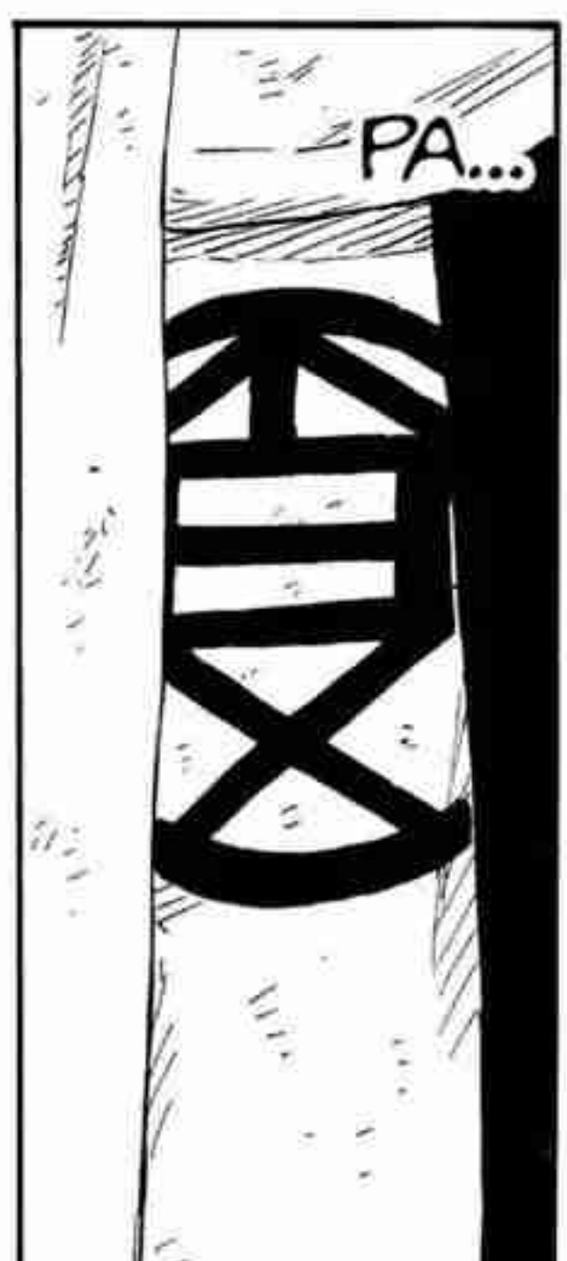
SNIFF...

AH, CHOJI. YOU'RE A SWEET BOY. SWEETER THAN ANYBODY....

BECOME COMRADES, AND HAVE FAITH IN EACH OTHER.

PITTER...

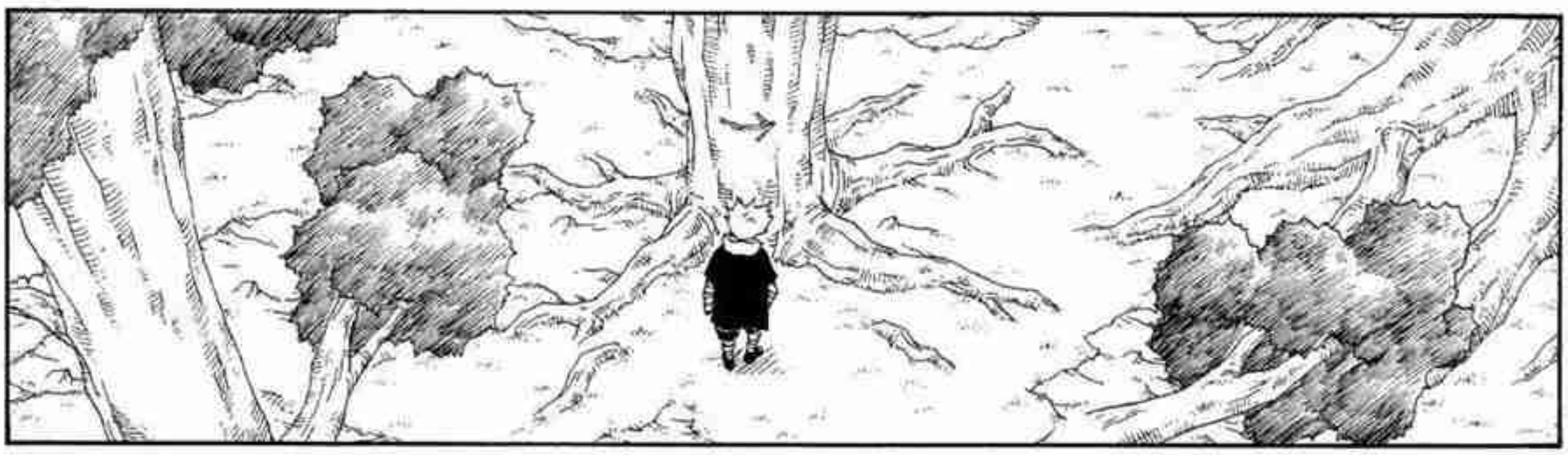

DRIP
DRIP

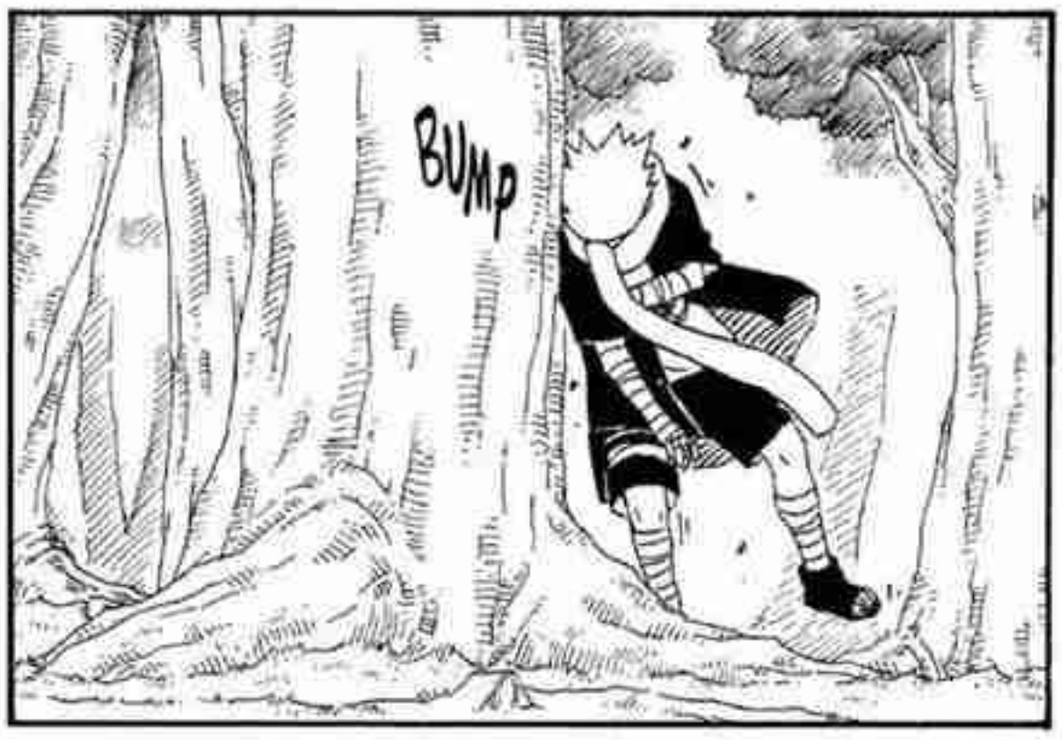

PA...

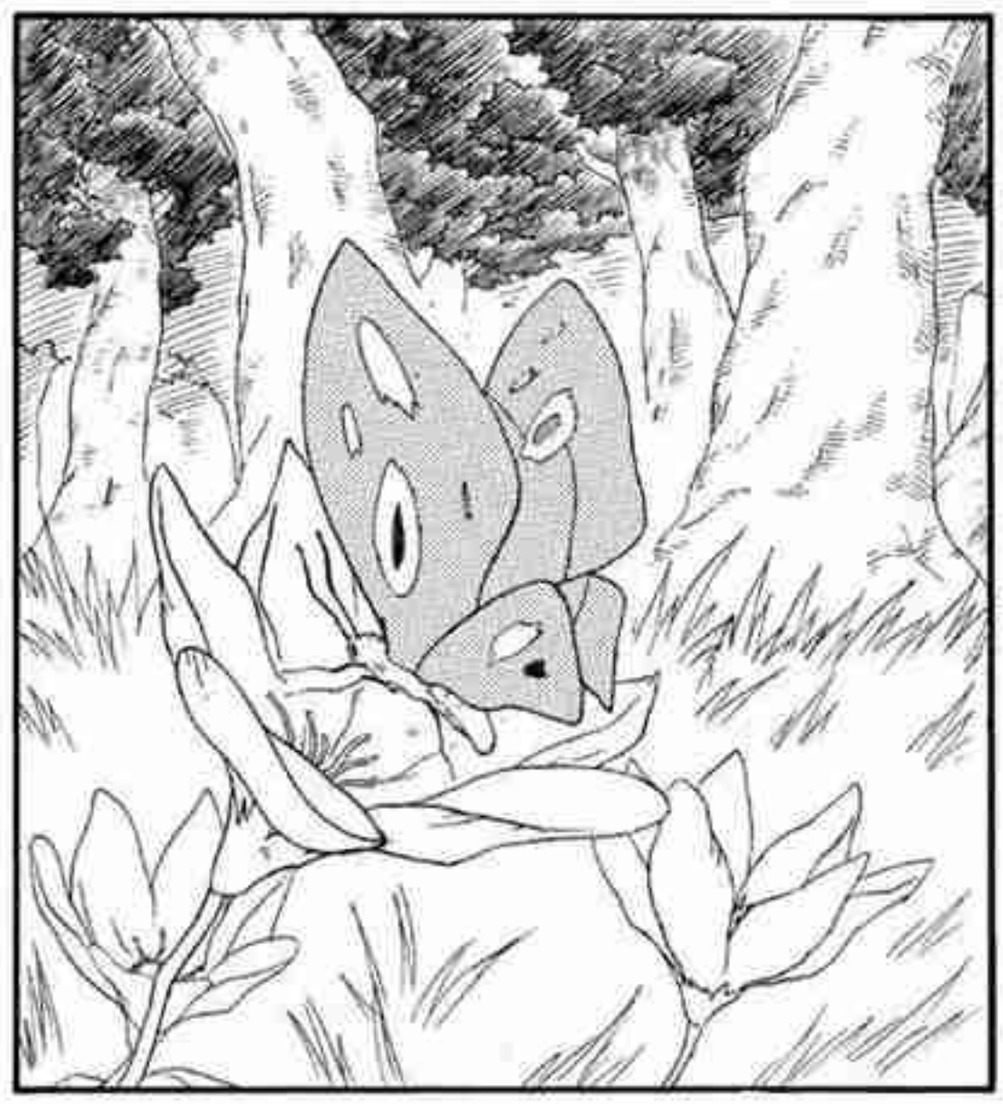
...

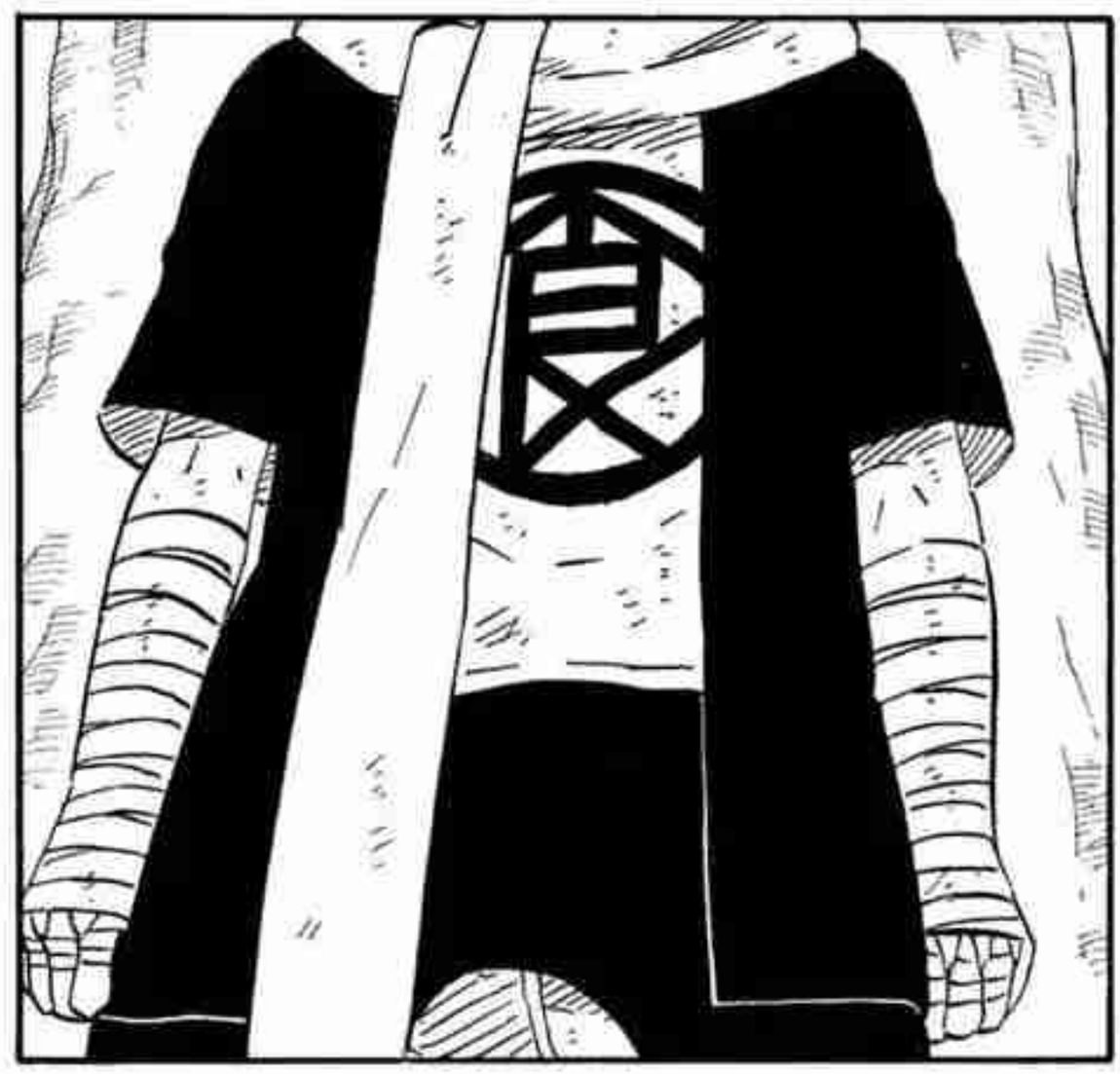
...LOTS OF COMRADES NOW...

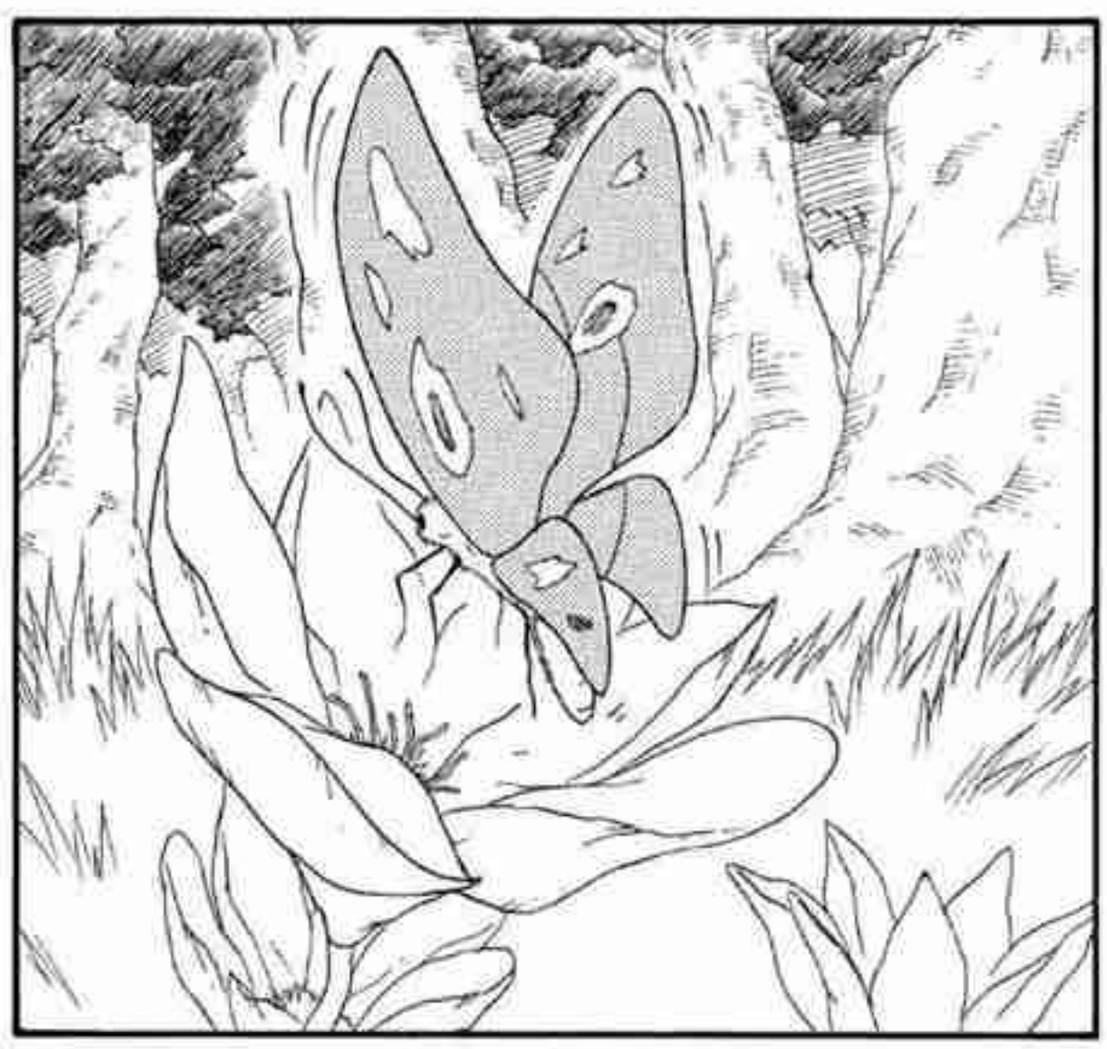
...I'VE GOT...

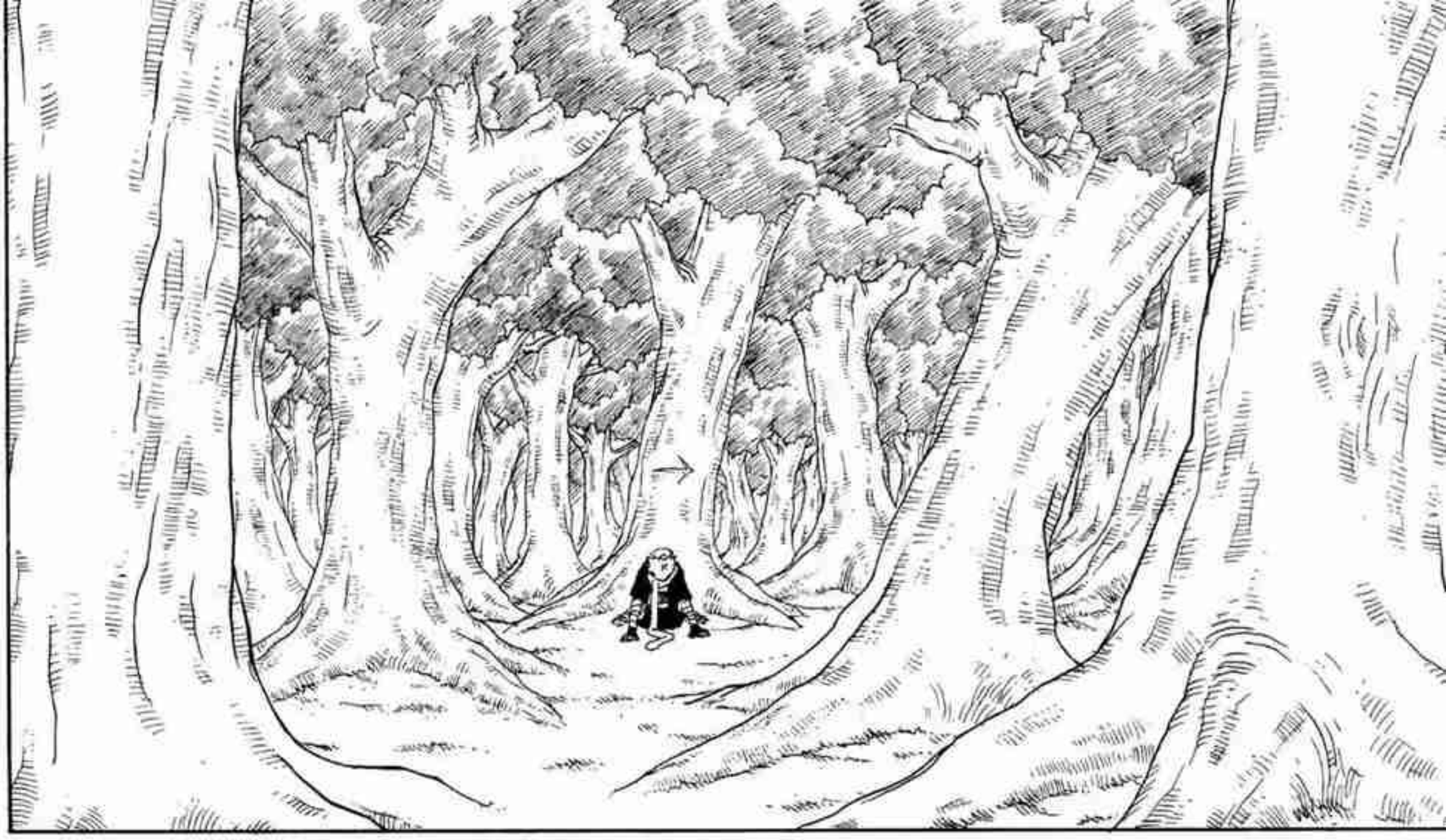


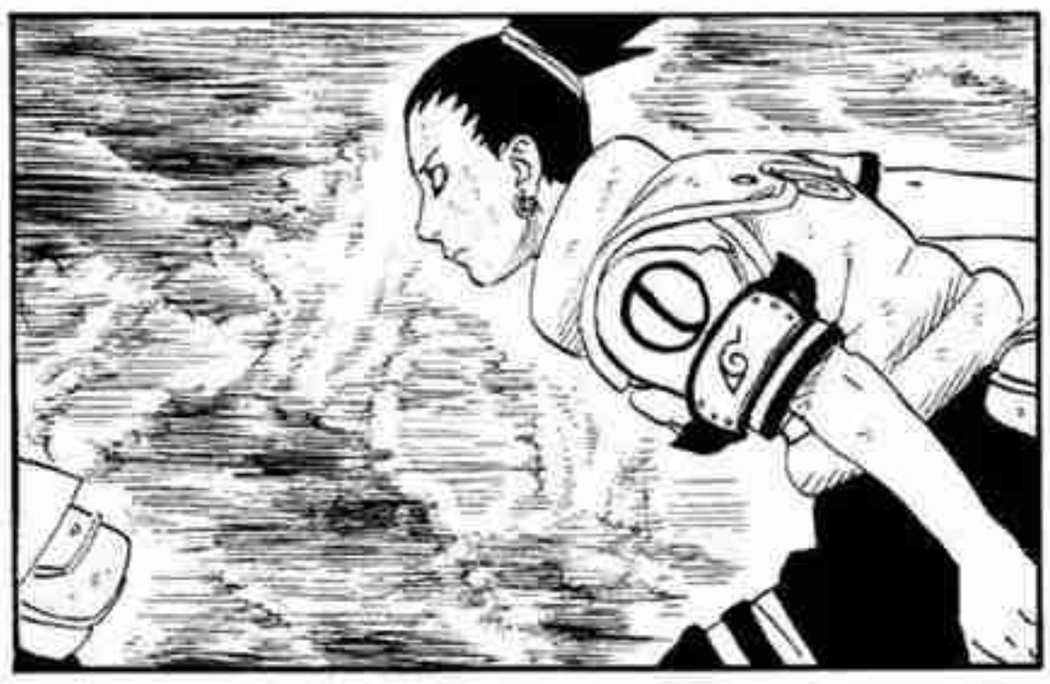








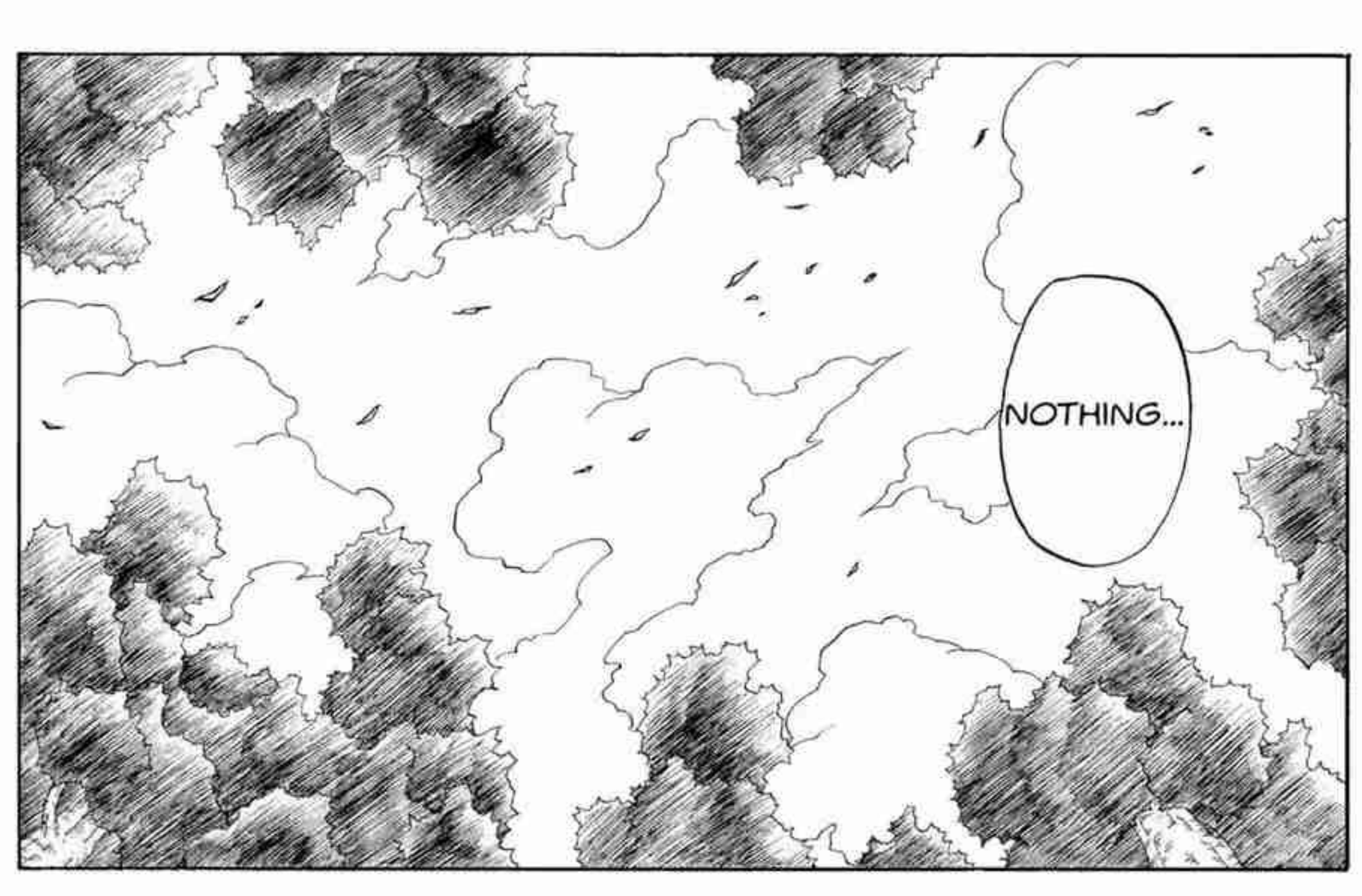


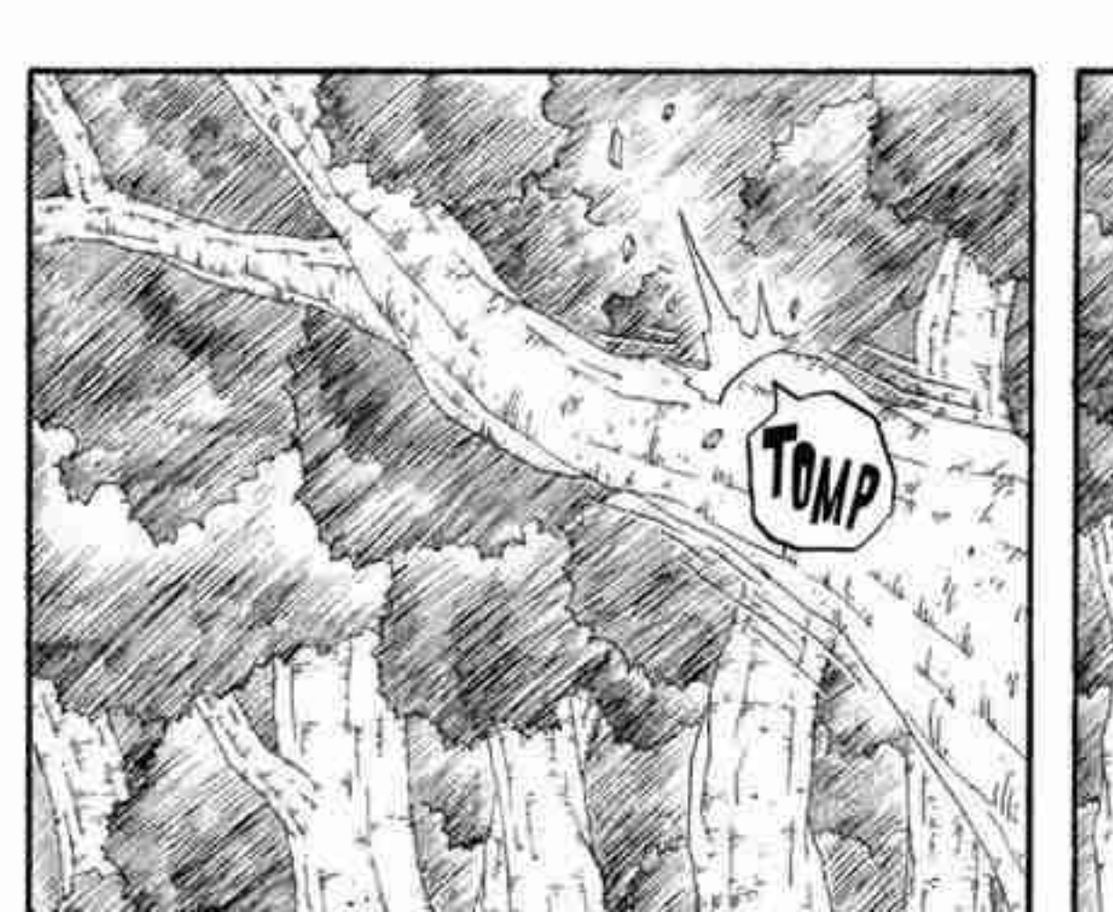


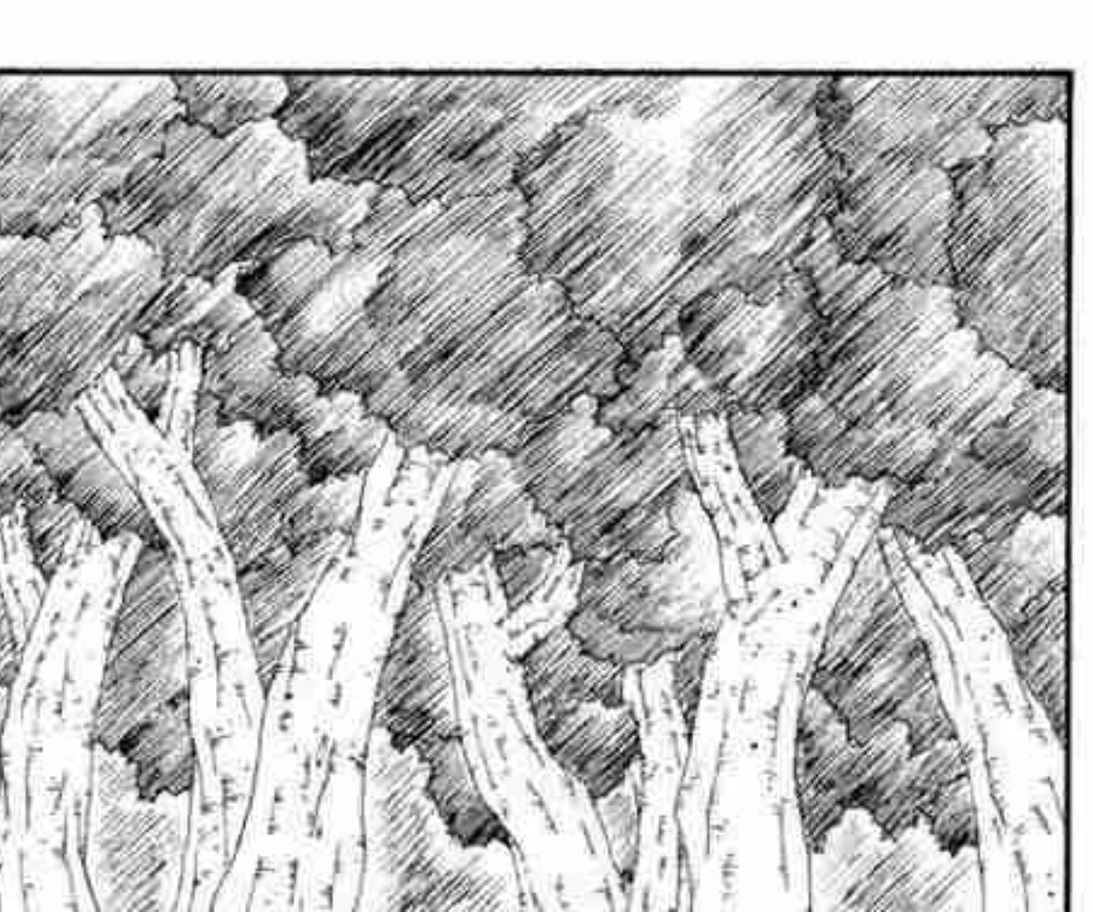
WHAT'S UP?
!

...

...


NOTHING...


TOMP



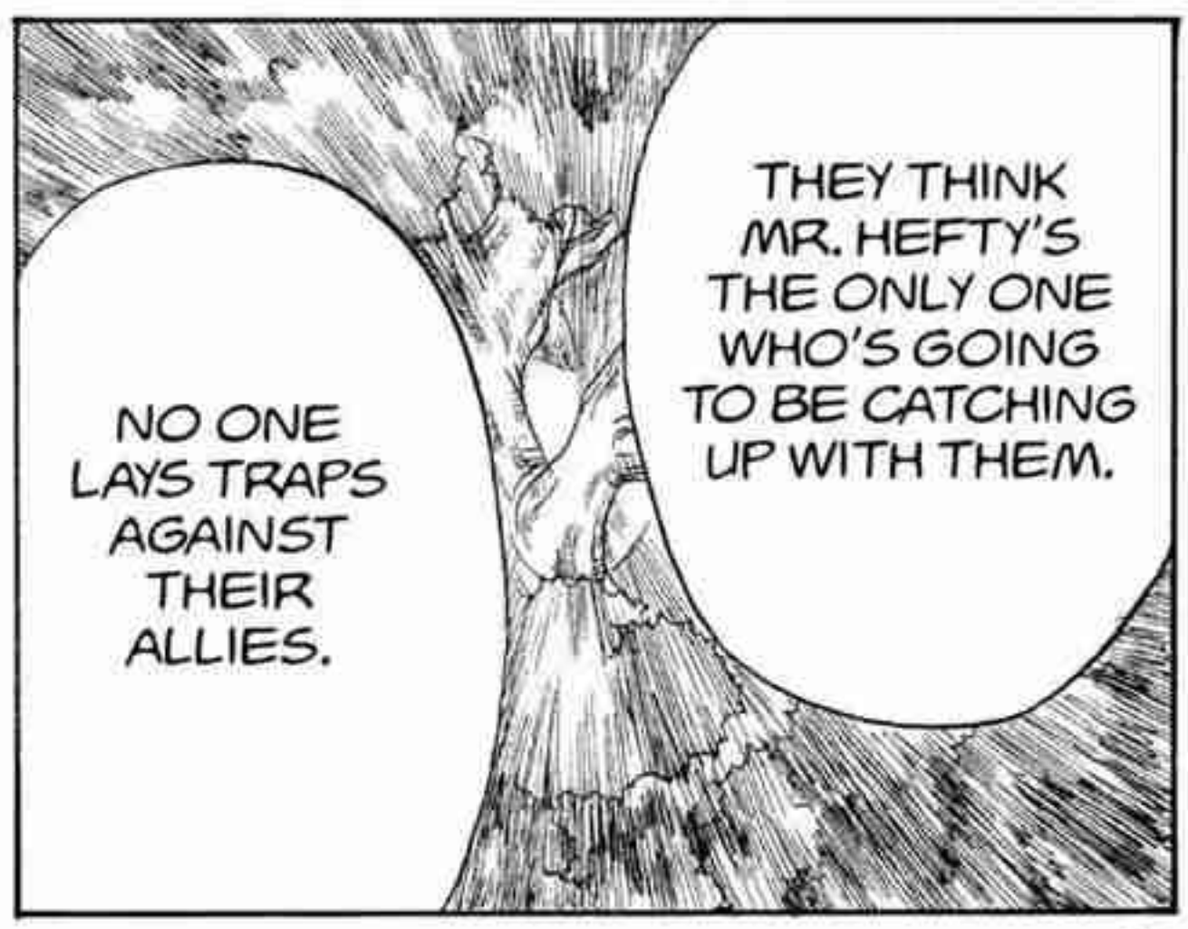
WHOOSH

THEY'VE UNDER-ESTIMATED US!

WE'RE CLOSE!
SNIFF SNIFF
SNIFF

SHIKA-MARU... WHAT DO YOU THINK'S GOING ON?
...THAT'S ODD.
THEY HAVEN'T LAID A SINGLE TRAP DOWN SINCE THEN...

HOW DARE THEY!!
GAH!


NO ONE LAYS TRAPS AGAINST THEIR ALLIES.
THEY THINK MR. HEFTY'S THE ONLY ONE WHO'S GOING TO BE CATCHING UP WITH THEM.

YUP...
...TO STRIKE!

TOTALLY...
BUT... THIS GIVES US THE PERFECT CHANCE, TOO.
...THEY DON'T THINK WE CAN DO IT.

VOOSH
WHOOSH

...NOPE... HERE HE IS...

THAT IDIOT JIROBO... LATE AGAIN.

WHAT TOOK SO LONG, MAN?

FWOOSH FWOOSH

SORRY ...

I WAS DRAINING THEM LOSERS' CHAKRA.

HEY FATSO, WE DON'T HAVE TIME TO FART AROUND!

CARRY THE CASKET!

BE USEFUL FOR ONCE!!

WHOOSH

...?

...

OK...

READ THIS WAY
...

...WHADDYA MEAN?

JIROBO... WHAT'S WRONG...
...FEELING ILL?

...

'CUZ YOU AIN'T JIROBO!
WHIRL
MEANS I AIN'T HANDING OVER THE CASKET TO YOU!

SHF!
PSHAW!!

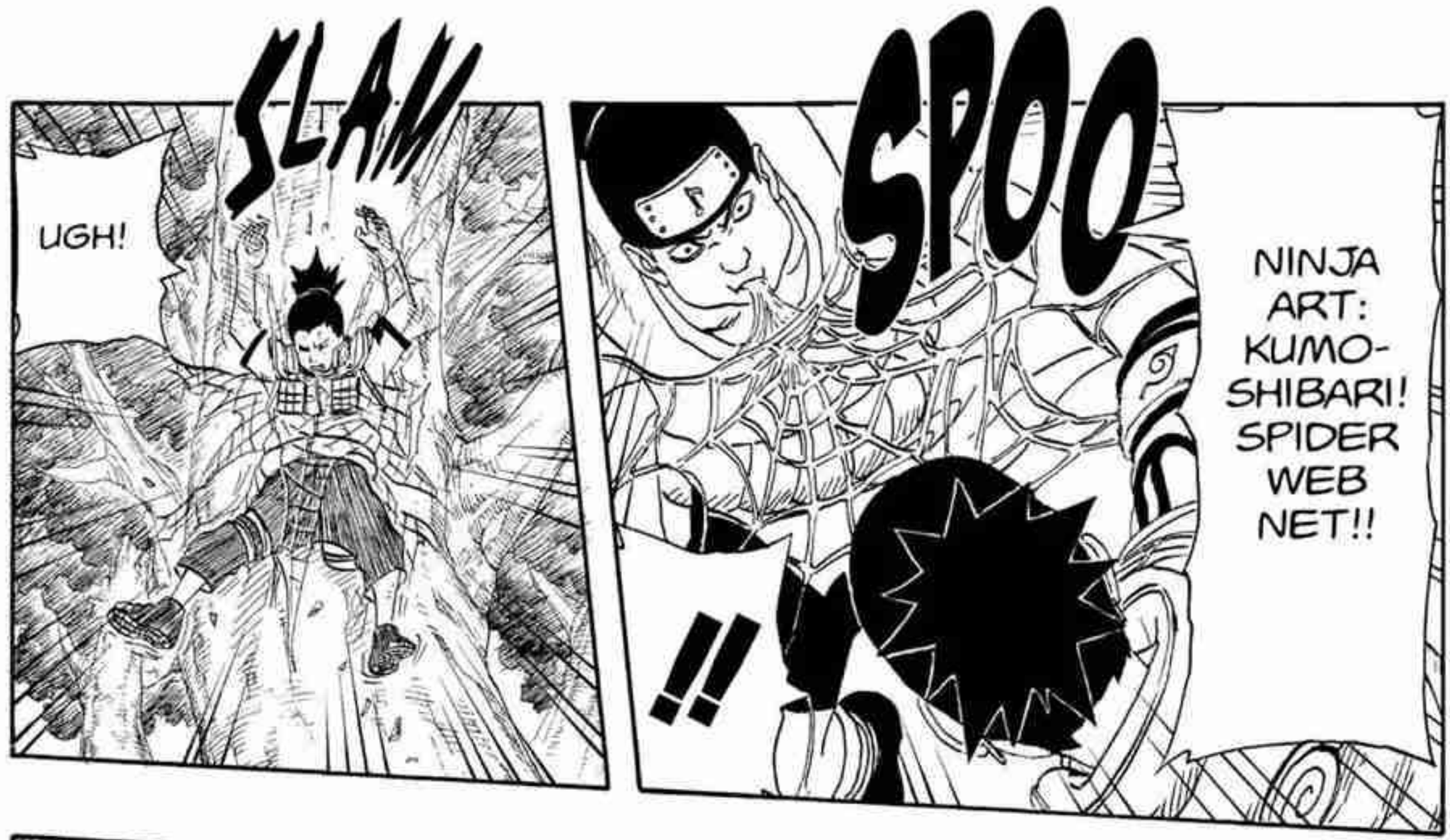
HMPH...
FAP

MY TURN, THIS TIME!
SAKON, TAYUYA, YOU GO ON AHEAD!
URGH

WHA
P

BOOF
I SEE...

PUFF
JIROBO'S ALWAYS SCOLDIN' TAYUYA ABOUT HER LANGUAGE.


SLAM
UGH!
SPOO
!!
NINJA ART: KUMO-SHIBARI! SPIDER WEB NET!!

SWISH
KONK
KONK

PFFT

!!
TAK
C'MON!

HE CAN'T DODGE YOU MIDAIR!!
NOW, KIBA! AKA-MARU!
WHOA!
!!
UGH!
BOING
TUMP
TUMP

NINJA ART: KUMO-SOKAI! SPIRAL WEB!!

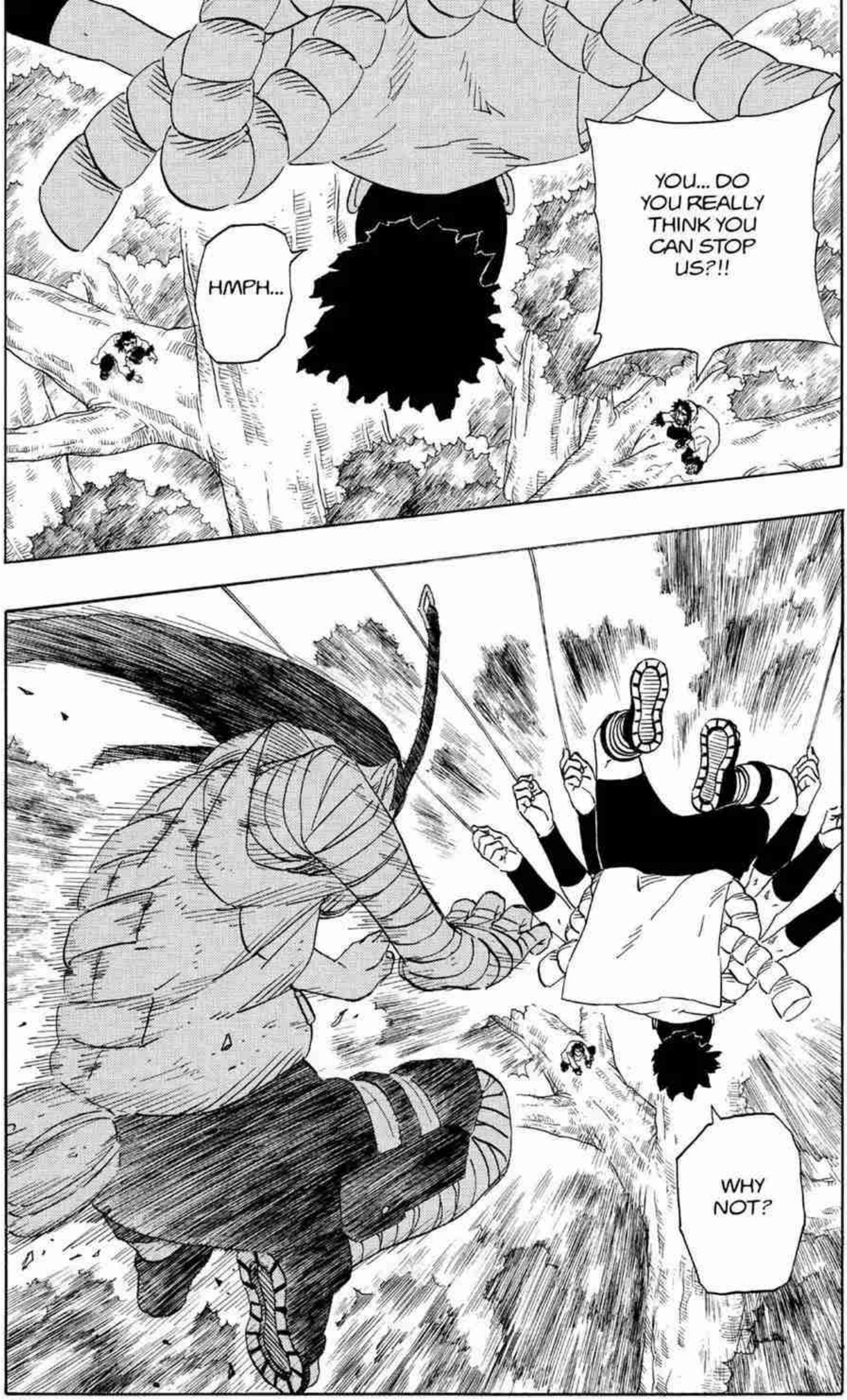
PSSSH

!!

GATSUUGA! FANG OVER FANG!!

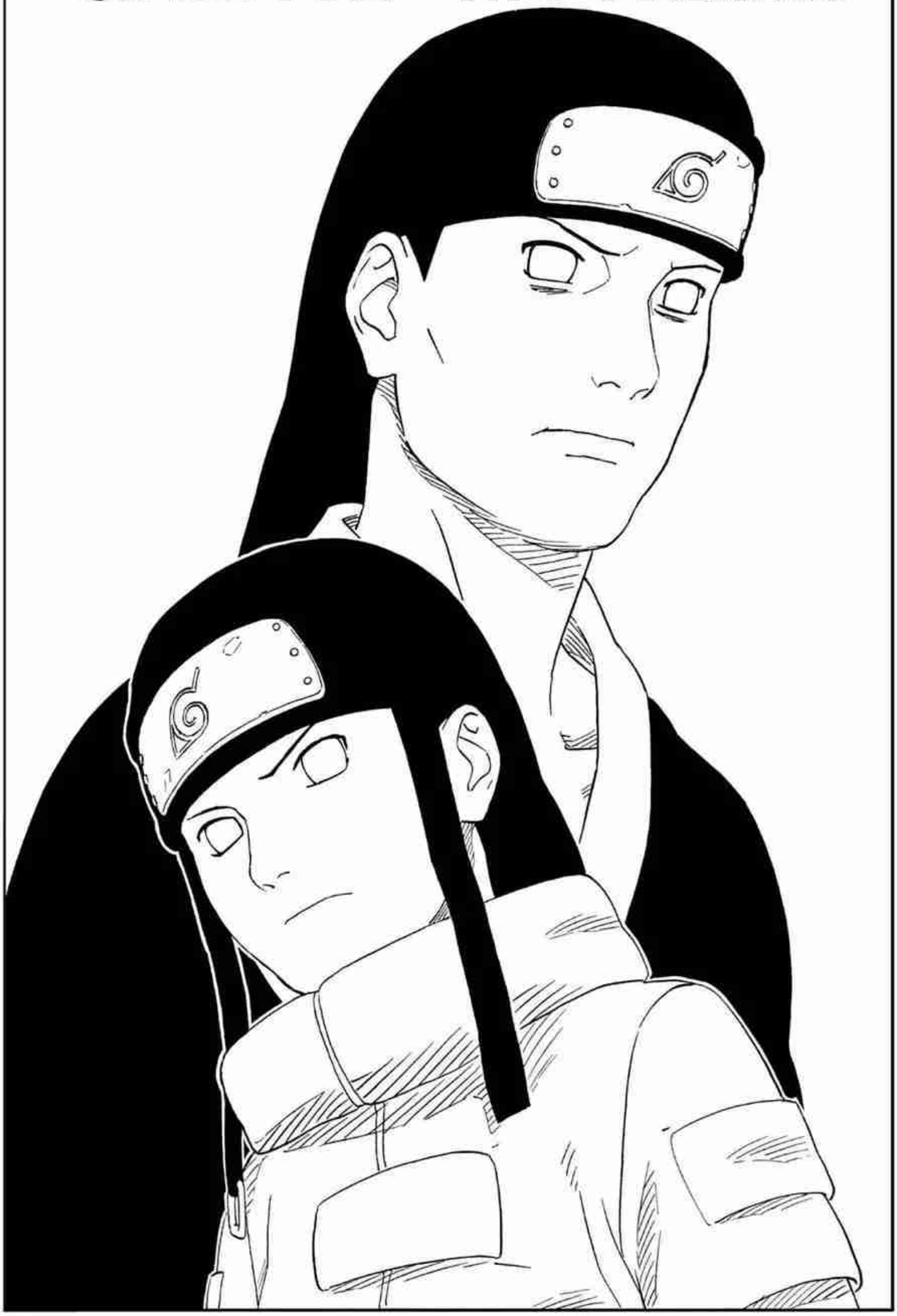
I KNEW IT WAS A MISTAKE TO LEAVE OUR WEAKEST BEHIND...
VWHOOSH
SHEESH, WHAT'S FATSO UP TO?!
GAH!!
POP
YOU WON'T GET AWAY!!
SHOOOF
LOOK DOWN!
THAT'S MY LINE.

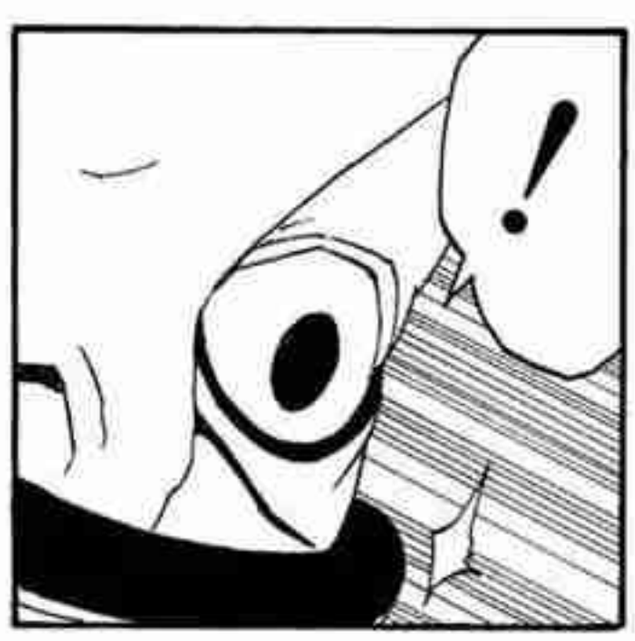
GAH!


HMPH...
YOU... DO YOU REALLY THINK YOU CAN STOP US?!!
WHY NOT?

NARUTO
TM

# Number 192: The Plan...!!

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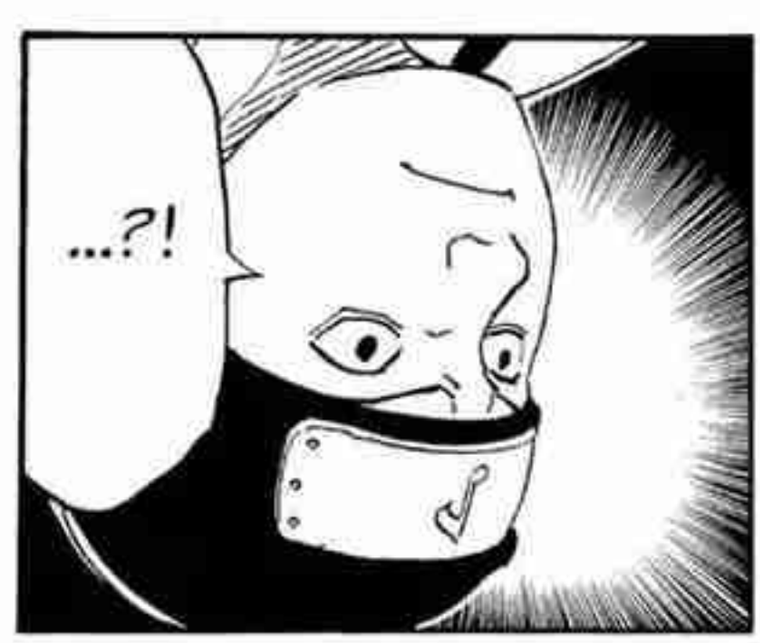
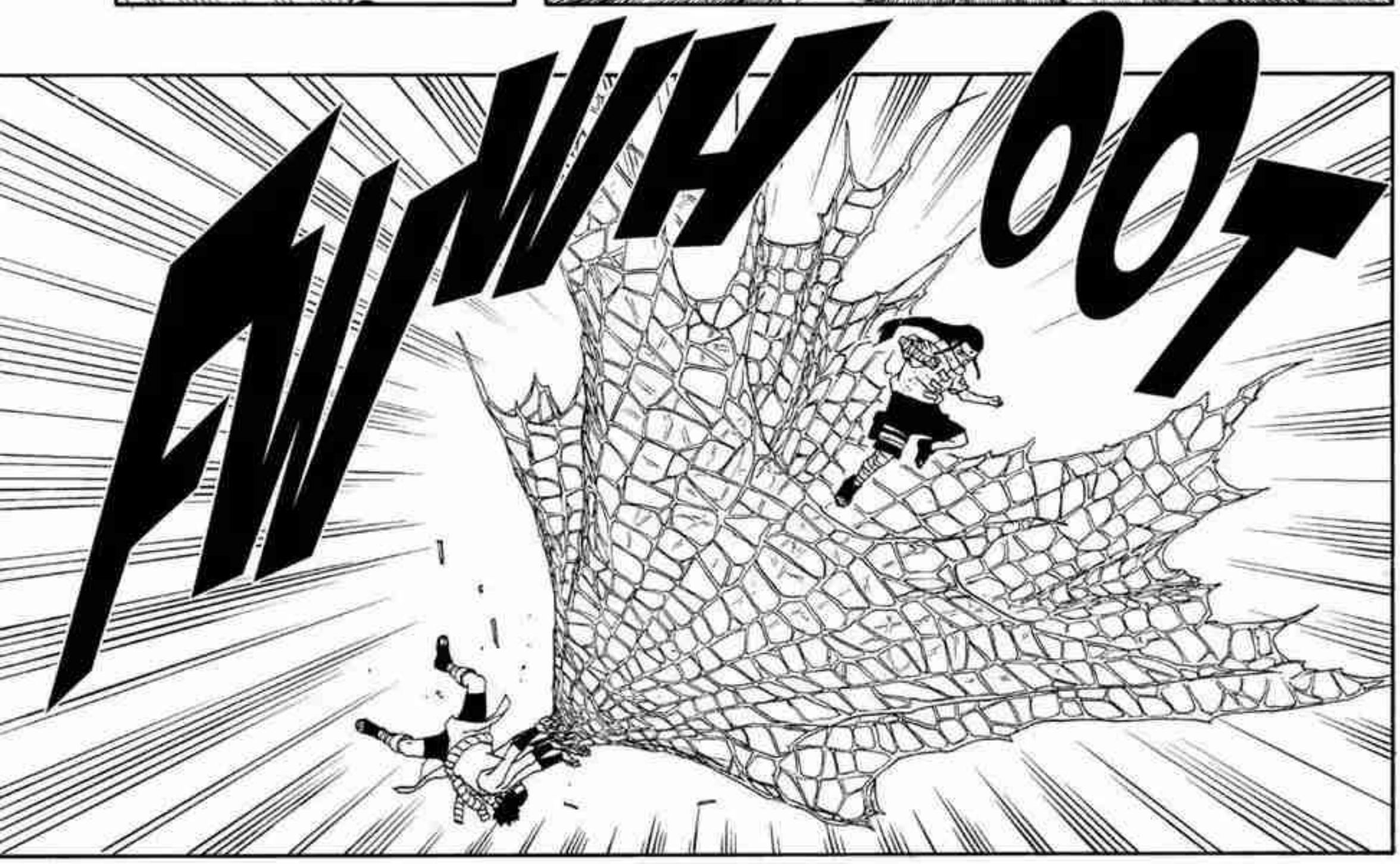

...?!

FOO
!!
FLICK
FLICK

!

HEH...
WHIRL


BOOF...

WHIIINE

ME, NARUTO, KIBA, NEJI...
EVEN THIS MUCH PLANNING'S NOT ENOUGH, HUH...

WHAT?!

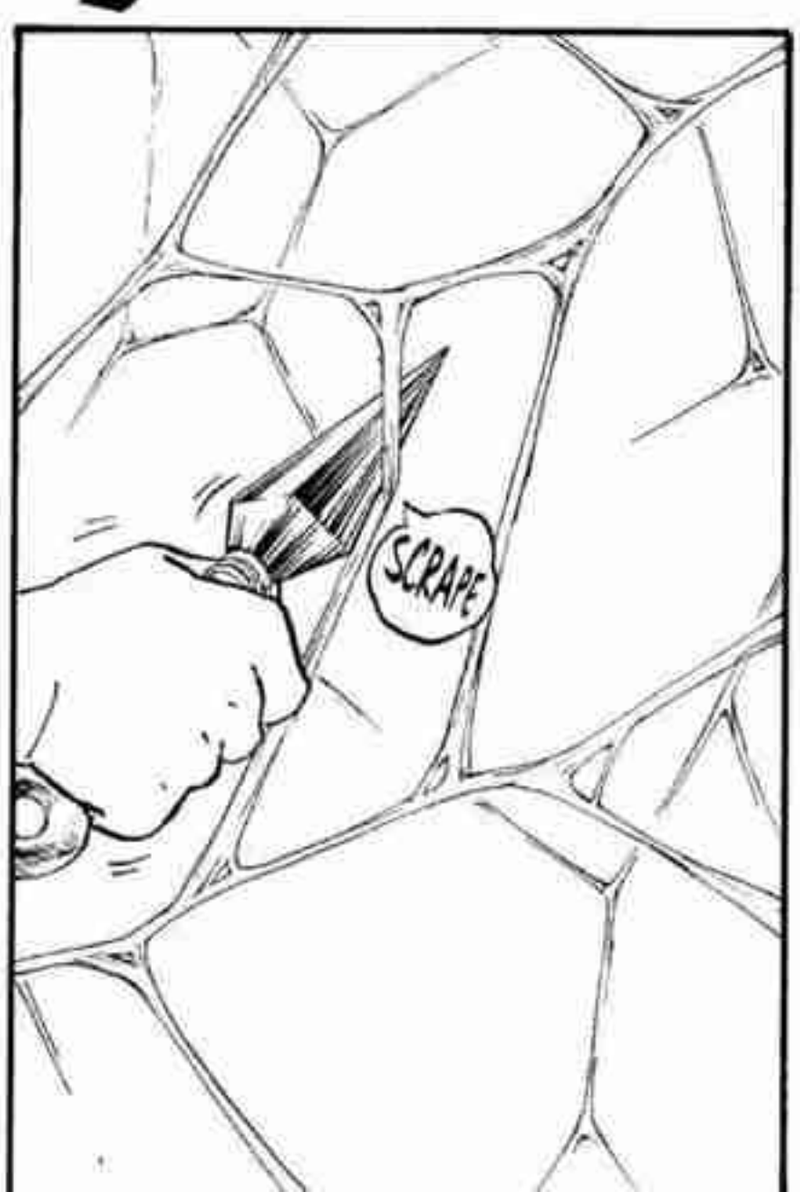
!

SHOOP
SHIP SHIP
ONE COCOON, COMING RIGHT UP!

UGH!
SHOOM

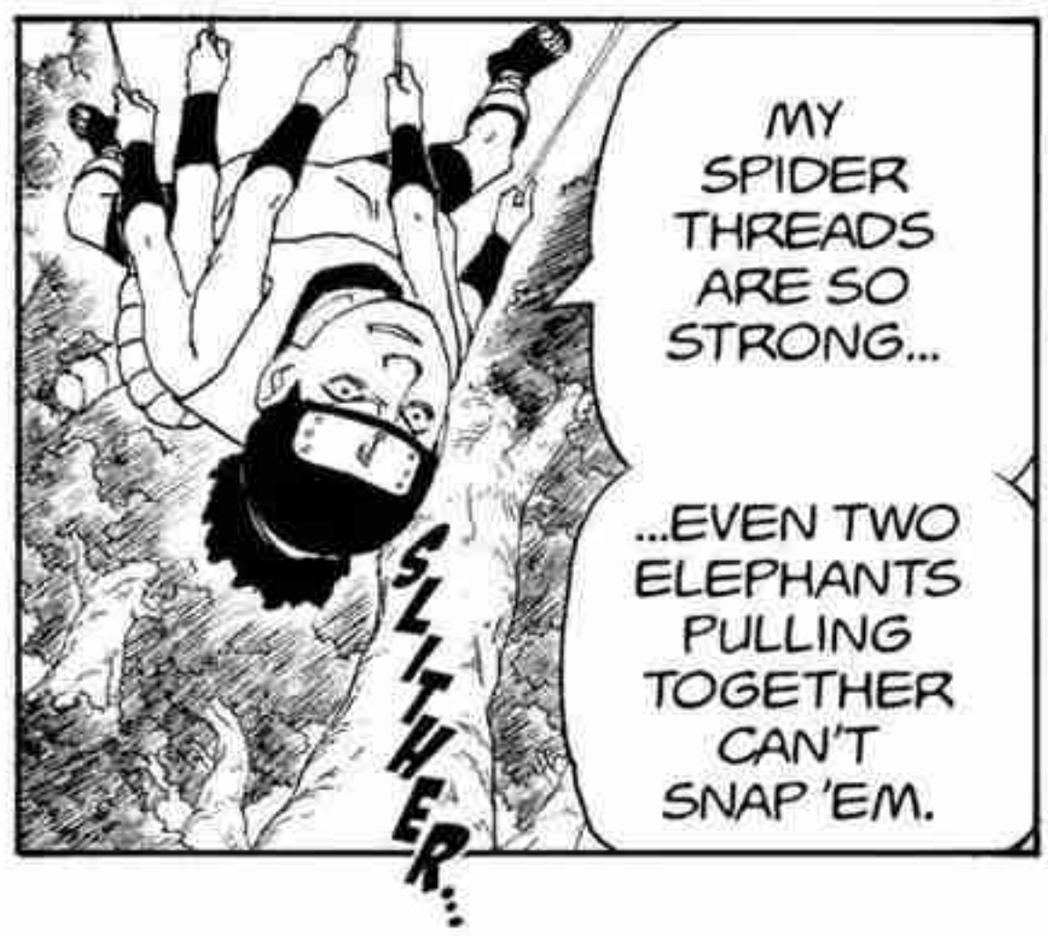
TA-
PLUNK
DAA

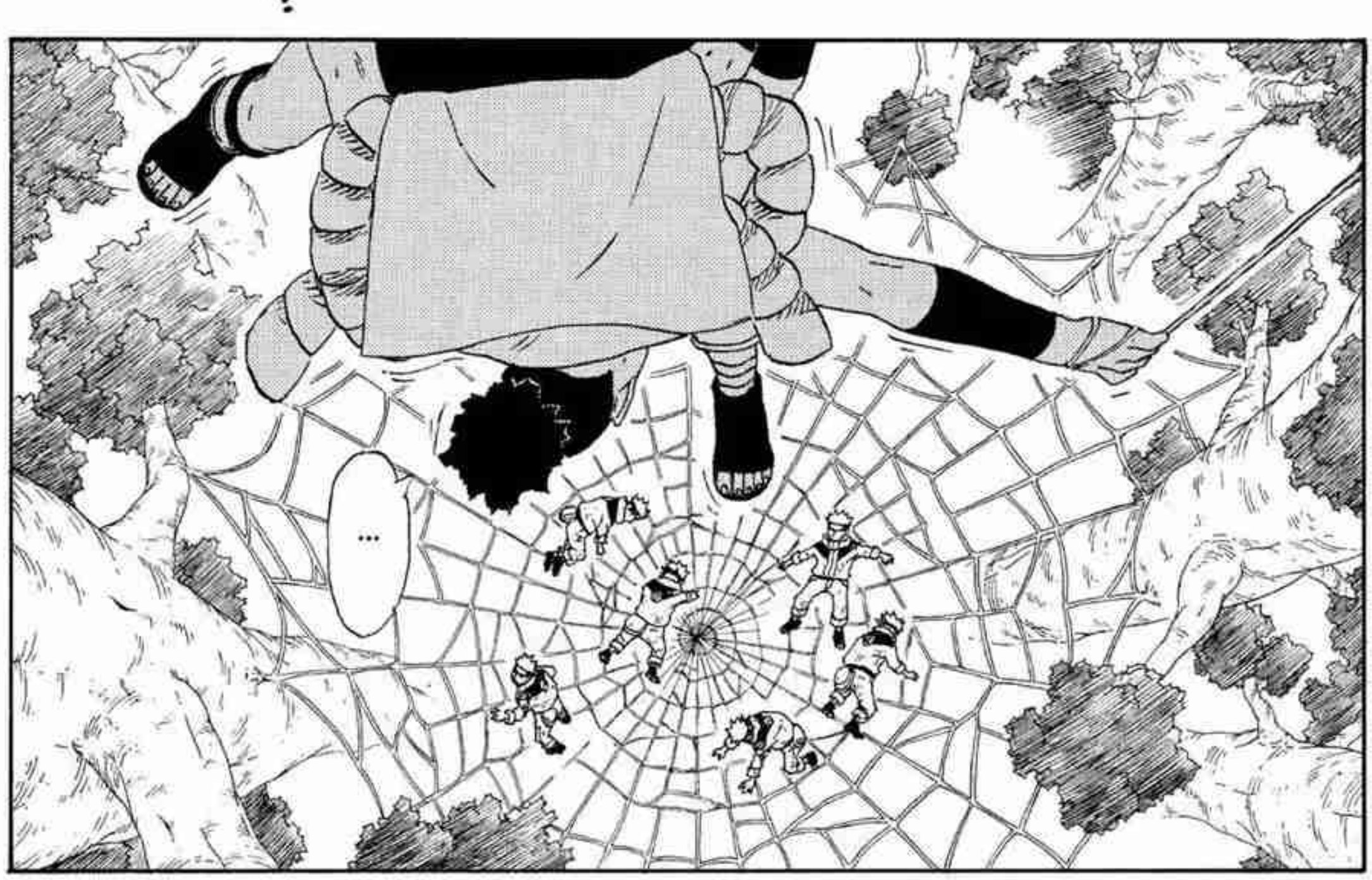
WONG


SCRAPE

AGH!
KLAK

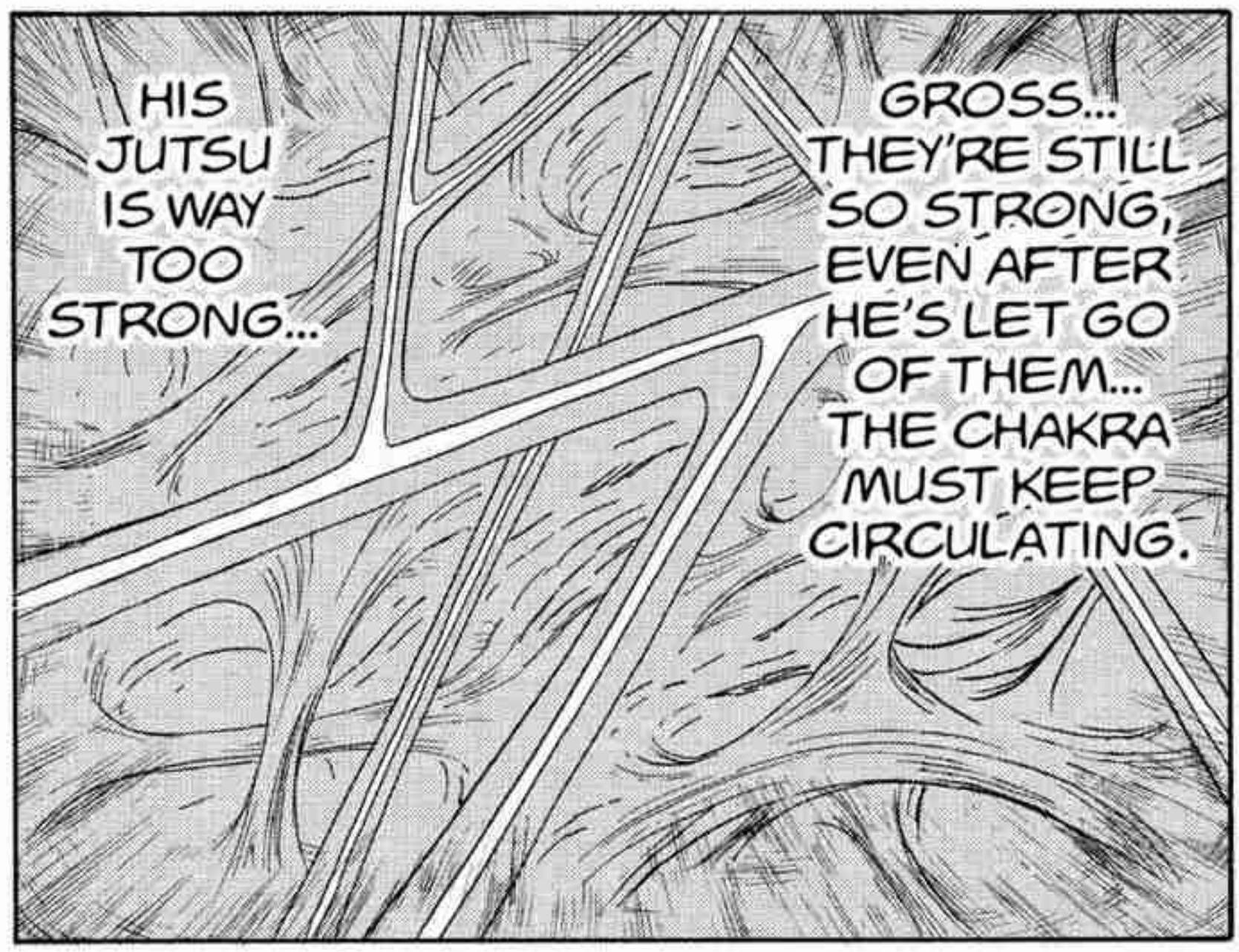
READ THIS WAY

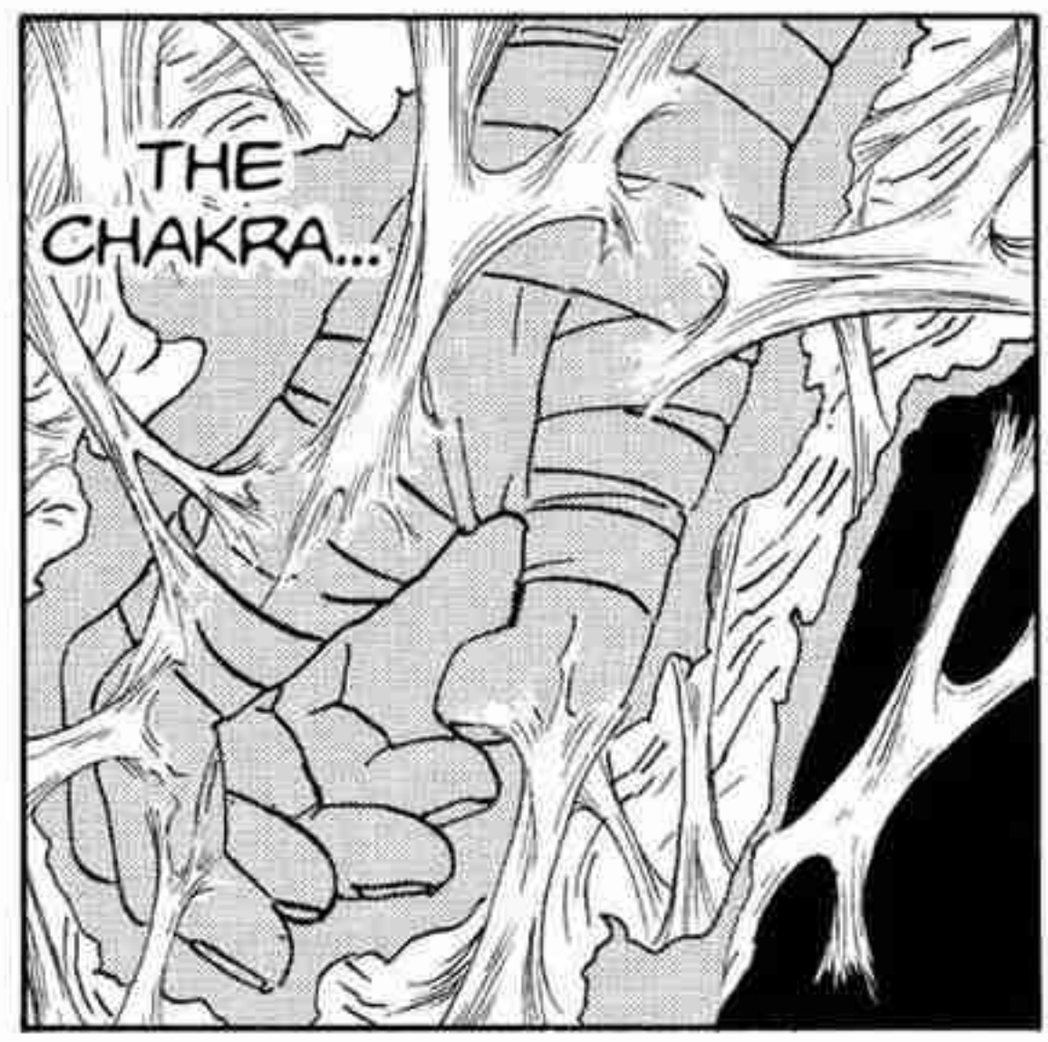




...SO STICKY... A MIX OF SPIT AND CHAKRA...

THESE STRANDS HAVE A MIND OF THEIR OWN...





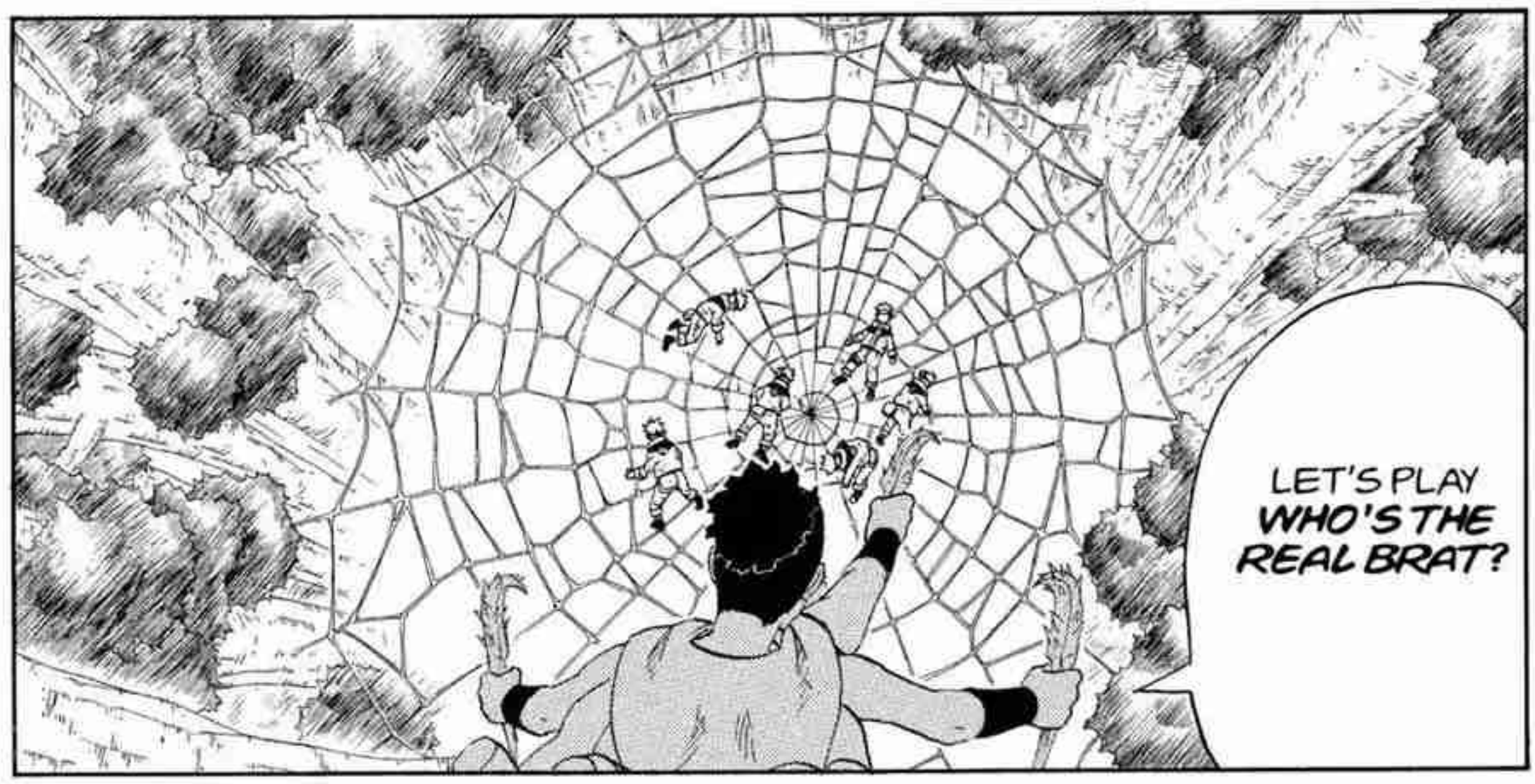
FSSSHT

NINJA ART: KUMO-NENKIN! GUM-STYLE SPIDER THREAD!!

PLINK

THEY'RE STRONG!
!

HEH... YOU'RE THE FIRST TO GO, SO I'M GOING TO HAVE ME SOME FUN!
PLINK!


LET'S PLAY WHO'S THE REAL BRAT?

FIRST CONTESTANT, THE OUTERMOST!
UGH!
GRR...!
!
!
CHAK

BOOF

HOW ABOUT THAT ONE!!
SHUP
HUMPH... A DOPPEL-GANGER.
WELL THEN...
BOOF
CHOK
ARGH!!

FWISH FWISH
I'VE GOT A 50 PERCENT CHANCE!!
ALL RIGHT, THIS TIME, TWO AT ONCE!
HEH HEH... YOU ARE SO LUCKY.
BOOF BOOF
CH CH OK
UGH...

PW!

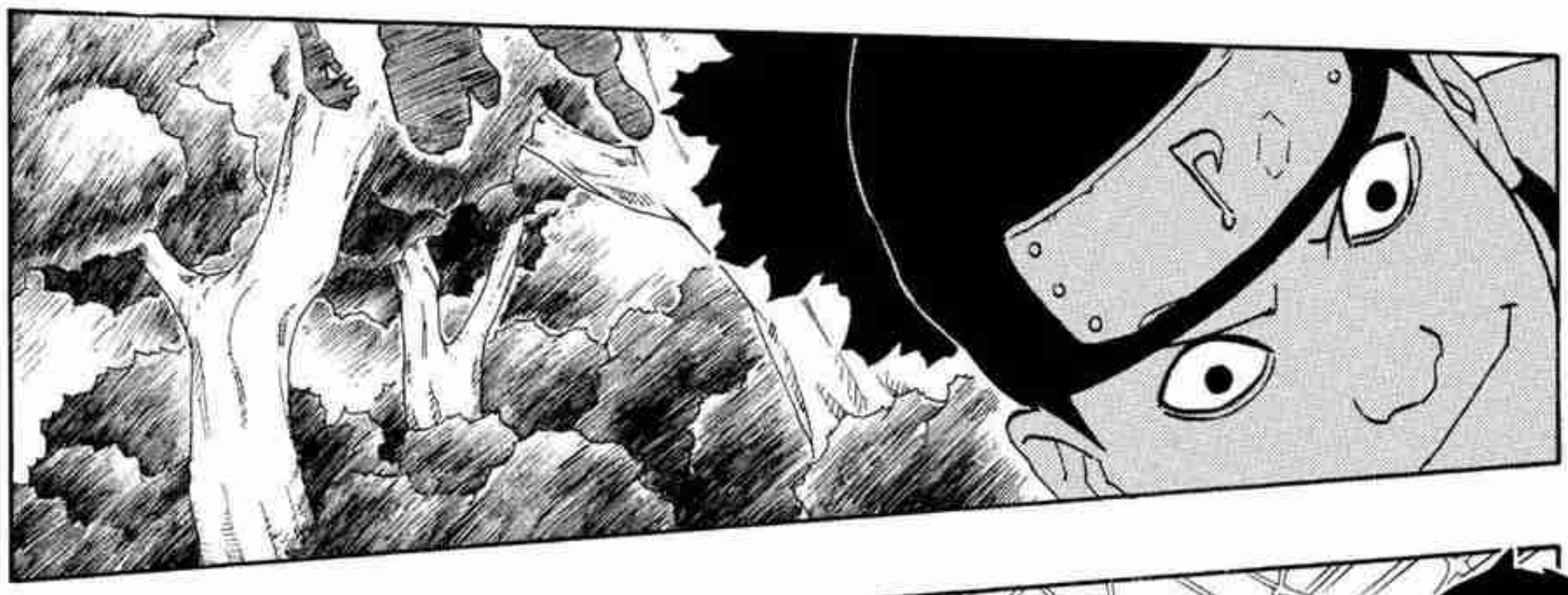
ARGH!!
CHOK

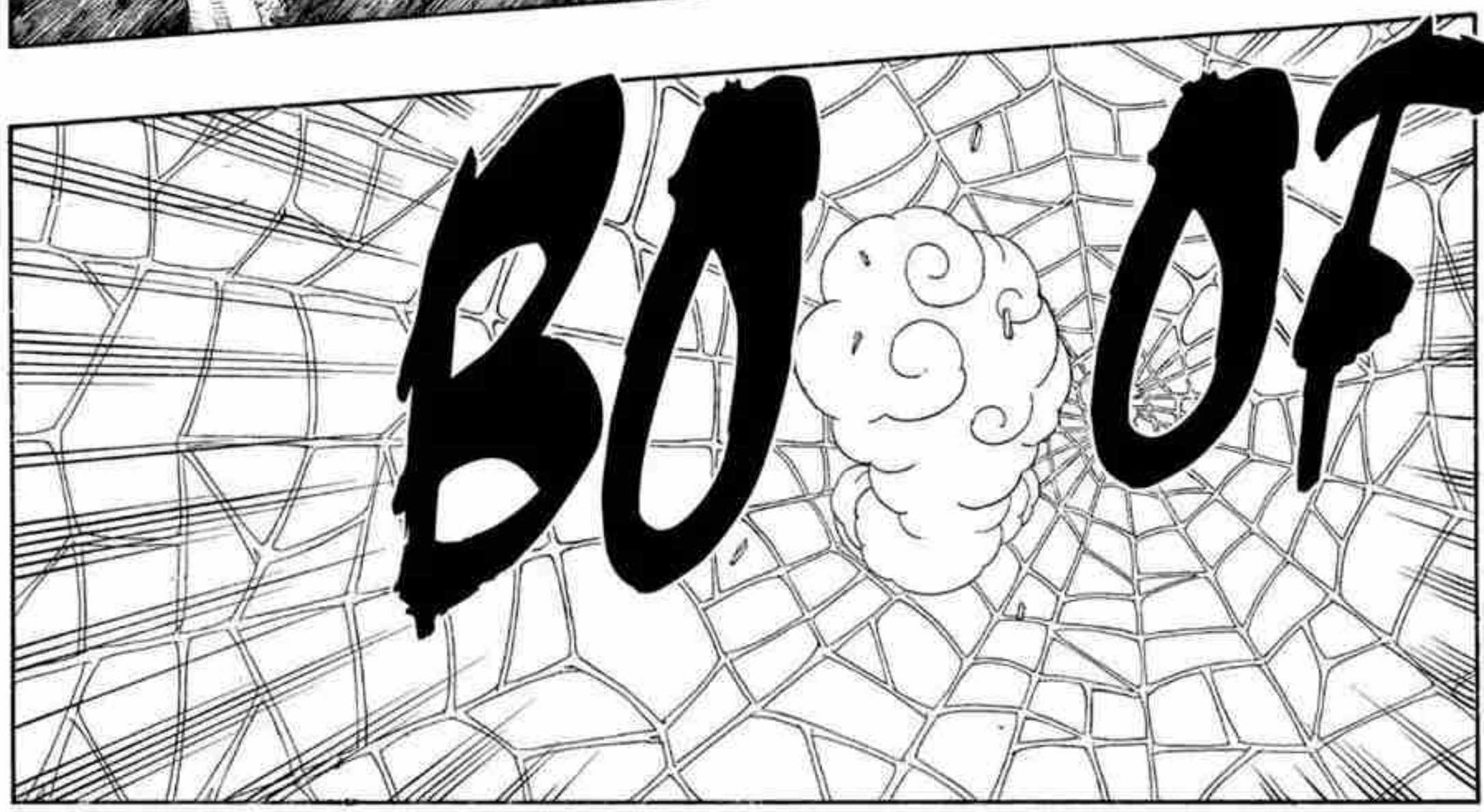
ARF... ARF!
...!!
...!

A-HAHAHA, WHAT LUCK!
WE'RE DOWN TO TWO!!

READ THIS WAY
PSHAW... I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS...
...
BOOF
...BUT NOW GAME OVER!
WELL... I SUPPOSE IT WAS MORE FUN THIS WAY...
FW
ISH
ONE DOWN... THREE TO GO!

CHI
OK



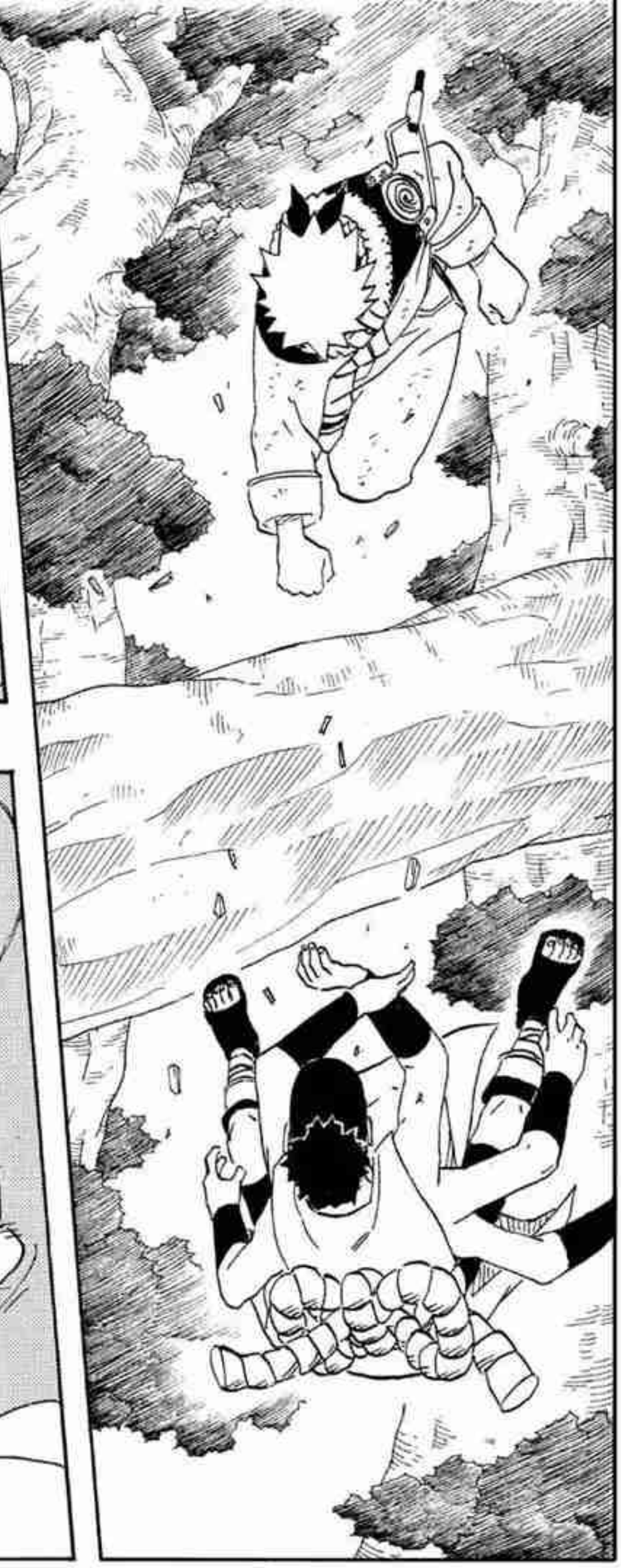

BOOF

!!

ガシッ

WHAT?!!

SCREECH
HUH!



FFT FFFP

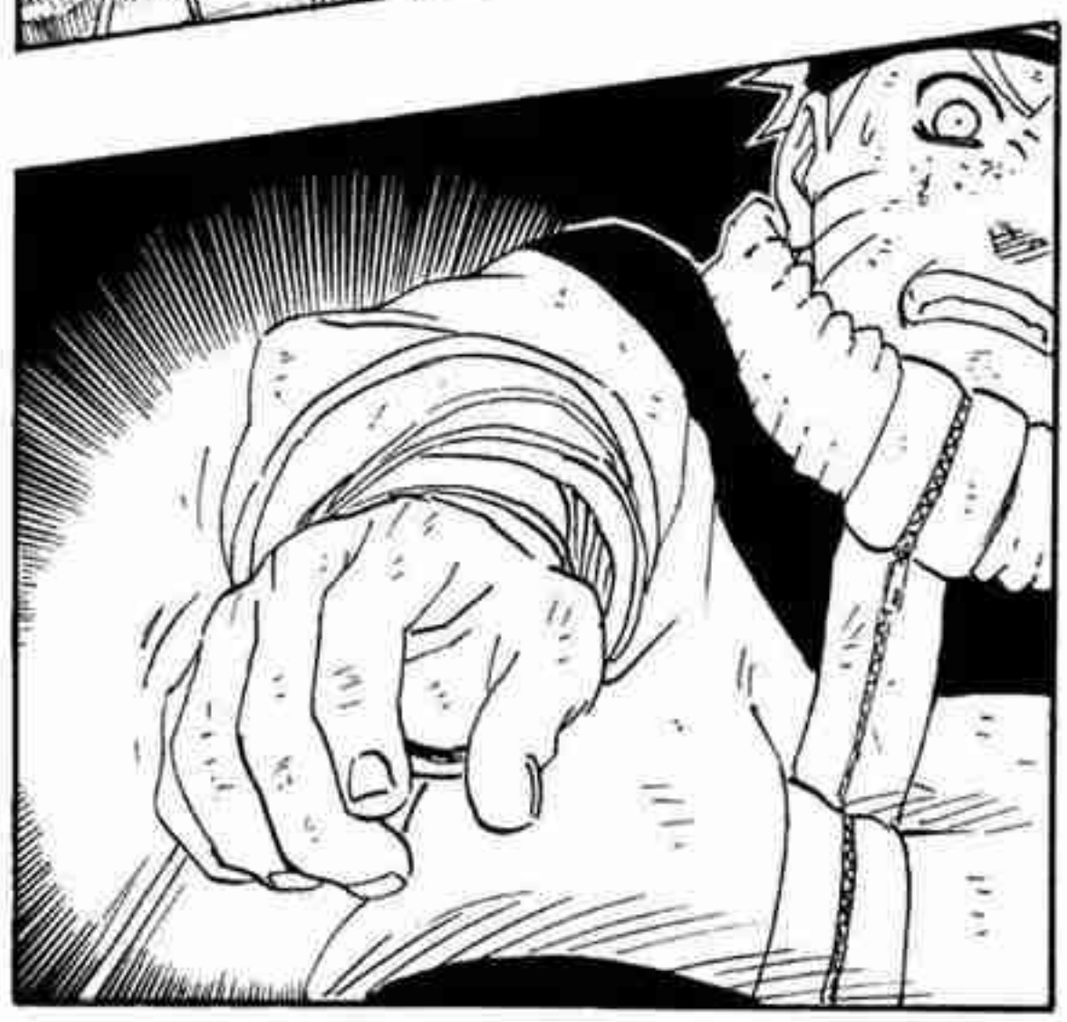
BOOM

FWOO

TWANG

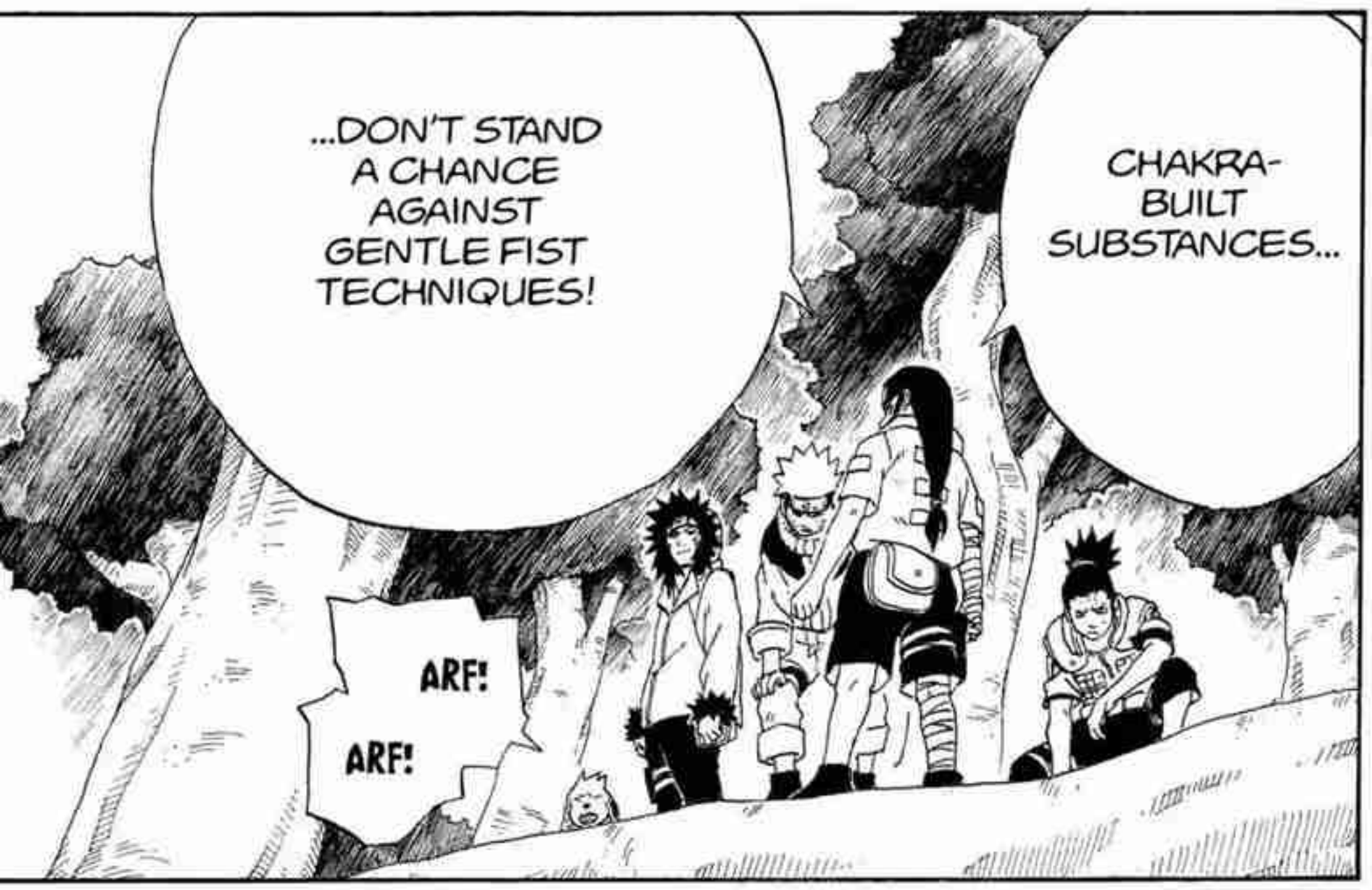
I CAN'T BELIEVE A SCUMBAG LIKE HIM PLANNED SOMETHING THIS COMPLICATED...

NOW I SEE... HE WAS BIDING HIS TIME WITH DOPPEL-GANGERS.



!!!
TAP
THANKS FOR BUYING ME TIME, NARUTO.
FAP
WHAT?!
THIS GUY'S JUTSU... I THINK I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN HANDLE THEM.

SWAP

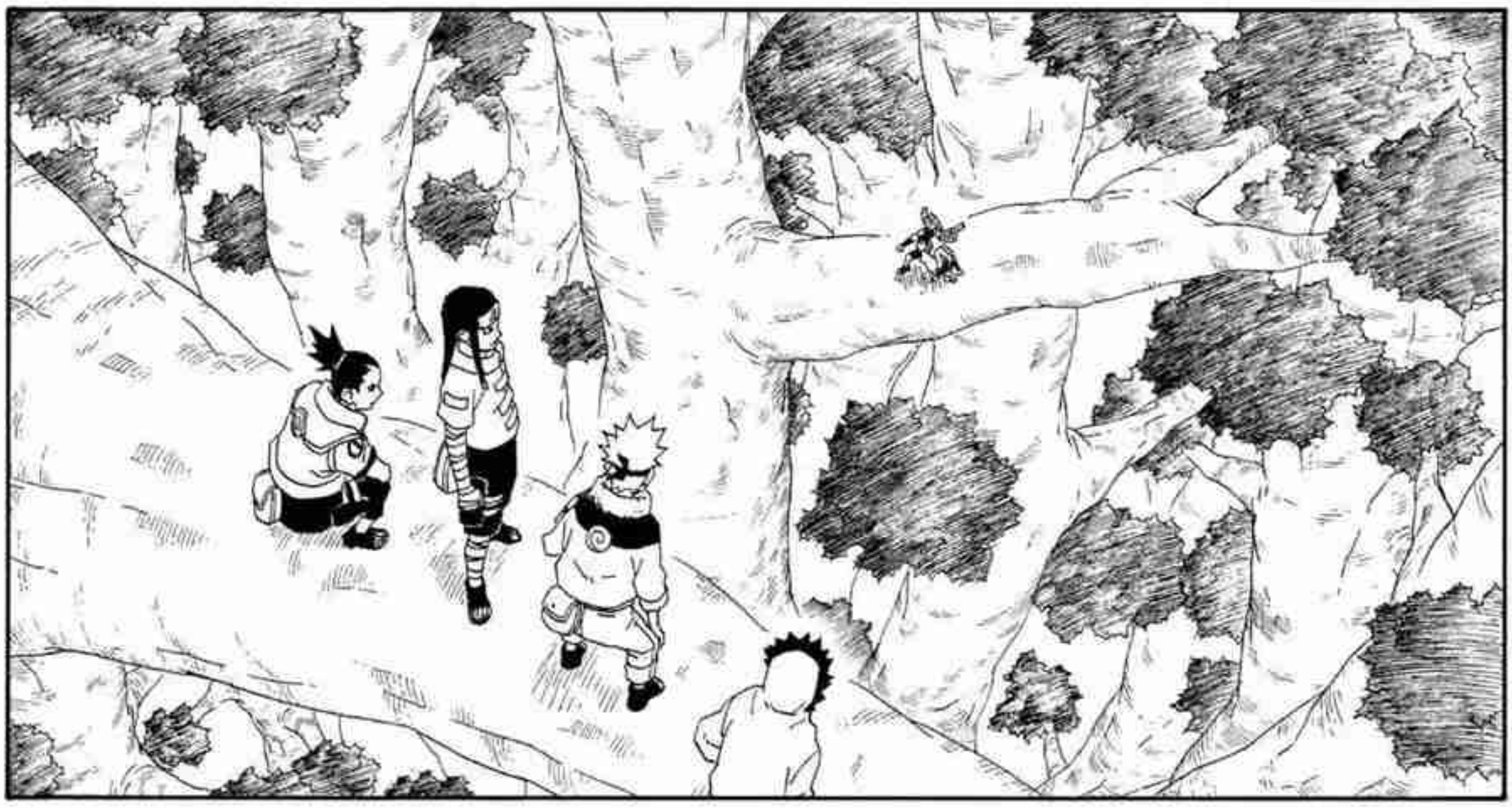

...DON'T STAND A CHANCE AGAINST GENTLE FIST TECHNIQUES!
CHAKRA-BUILT SUBSTANCES...
ARF!
ARF!

YOU... HOW DIDJA...?!

I'LL TAKE HIM.
GO...

NARUTO
TM

# Number 193: Game Over



...
KIK
KIK

WHIIINE
HM
HM

...HE SAYS THIS GUY'S TOUGHER THAN THE BIG GUY EARLIER.

A LOT TOUGHER...

...YEAH.

THAT'S RIGHT.

THAT'S WHAT WE DISCUSSED...

WE HAVE TO GO ONE-ON-ONE.

...

...!

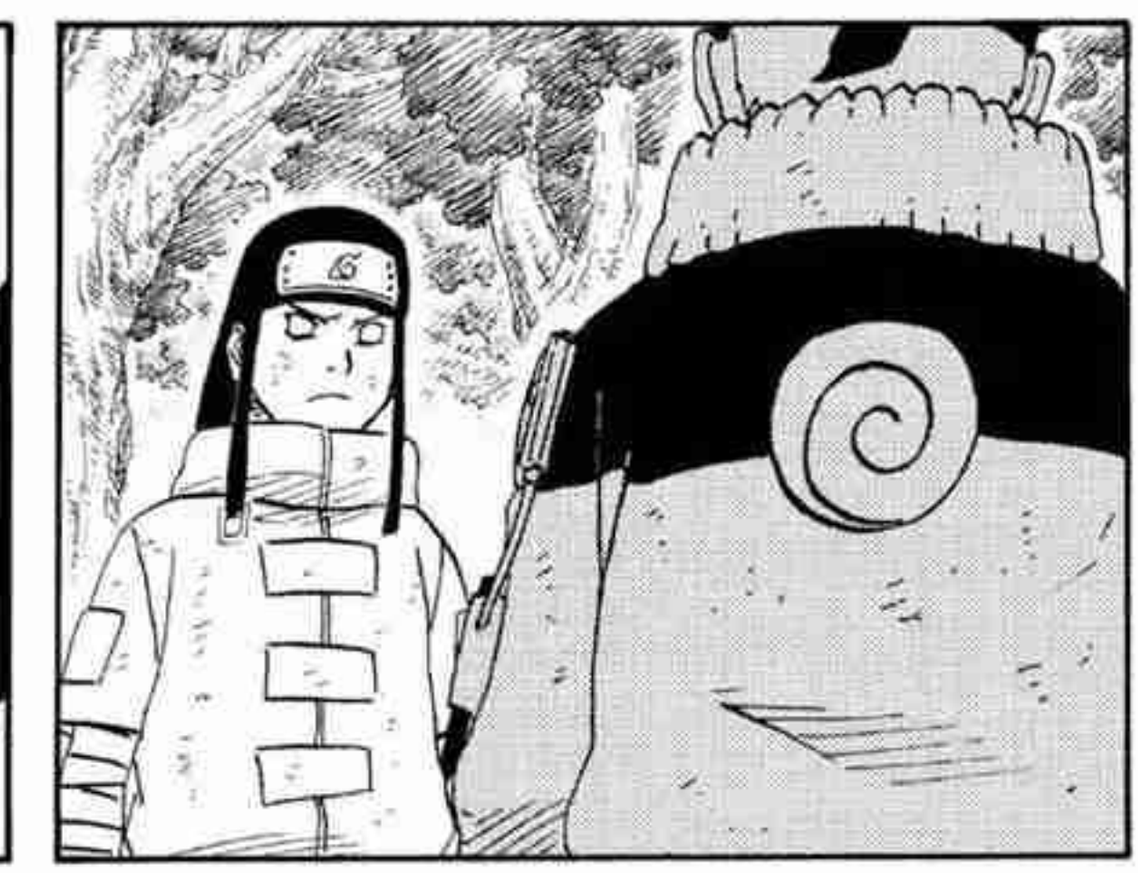
BESIDES ...

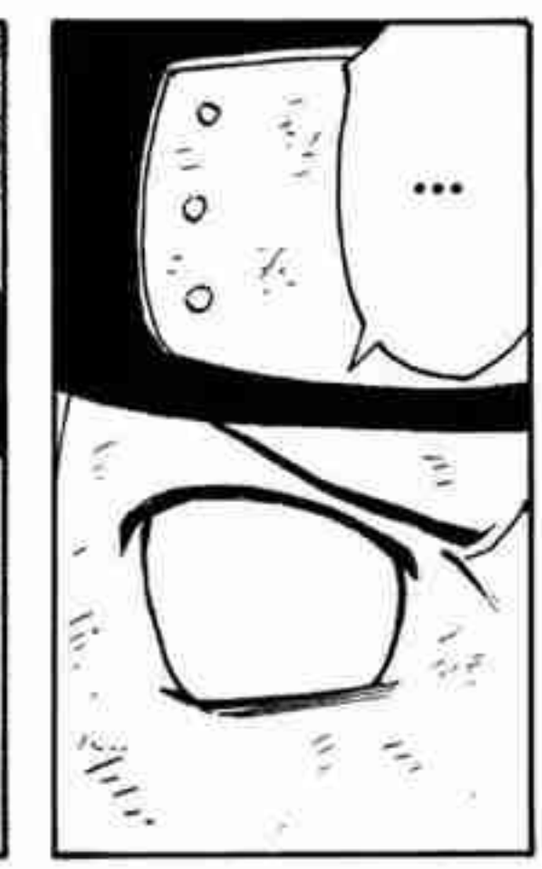
...

...

IF WE ALL GET STUCK HERE...
...WE WON'T BE ABLE TO CATCH UP TO SASUKE.

...
NARUTO...

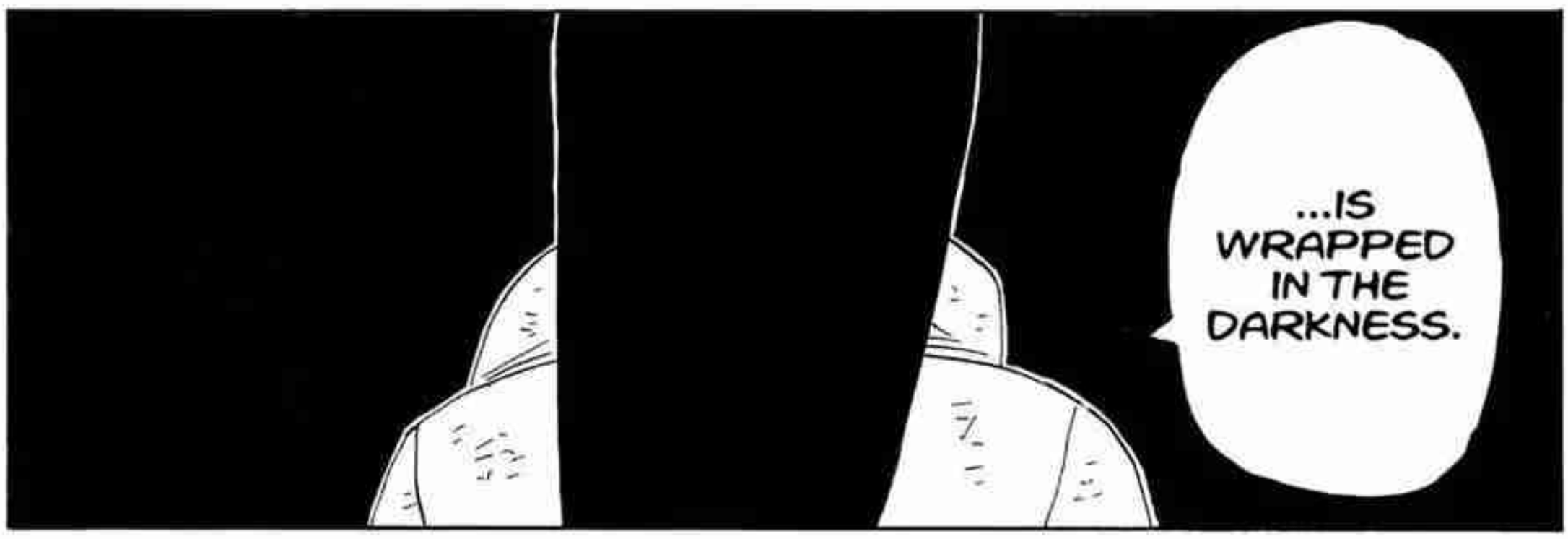


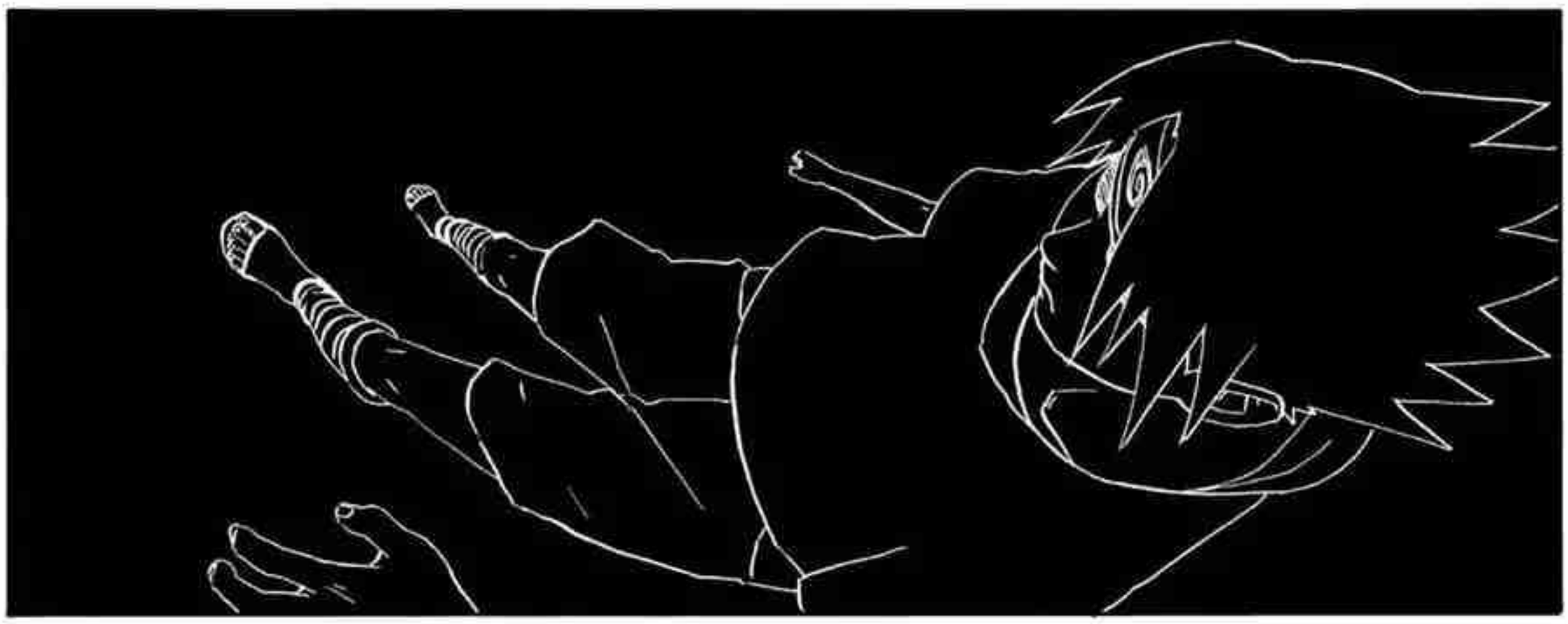

...

YOU'VE GOT BETTER SIGHT THAN I DO.

TAP
RIGHT NOW, SASUKE...

?


...IS WRAPPED IN THE DARKNESS.

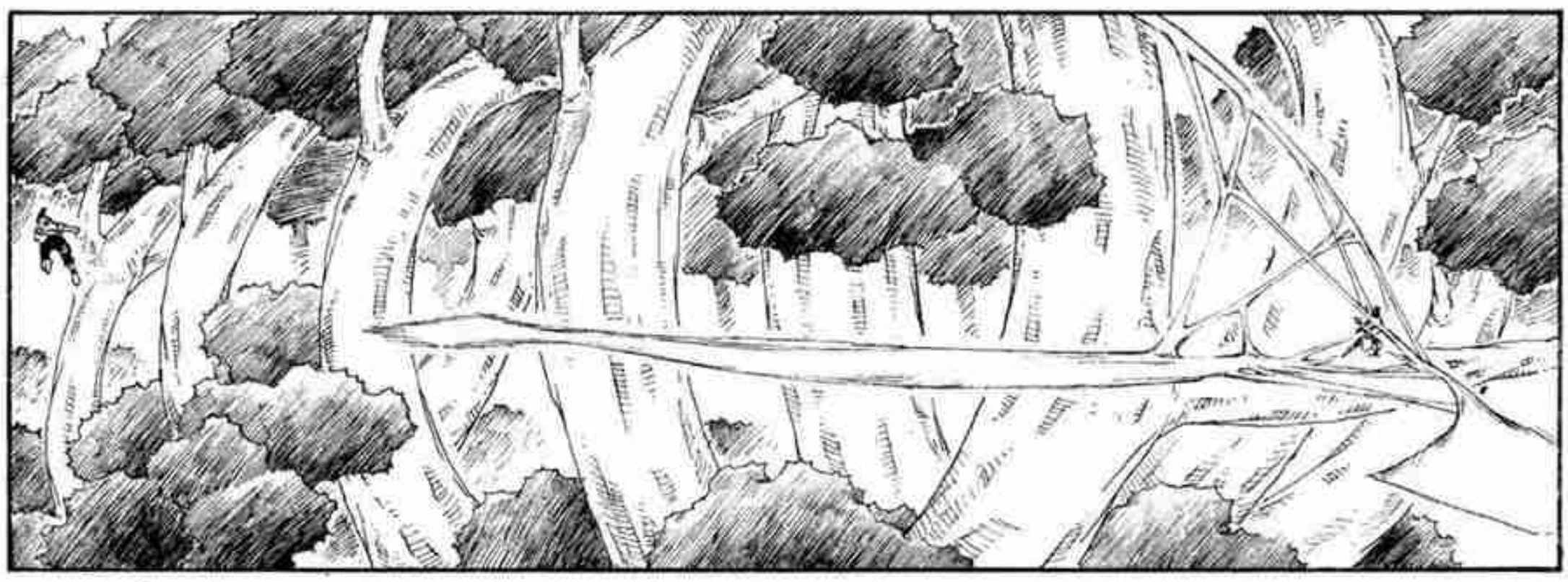


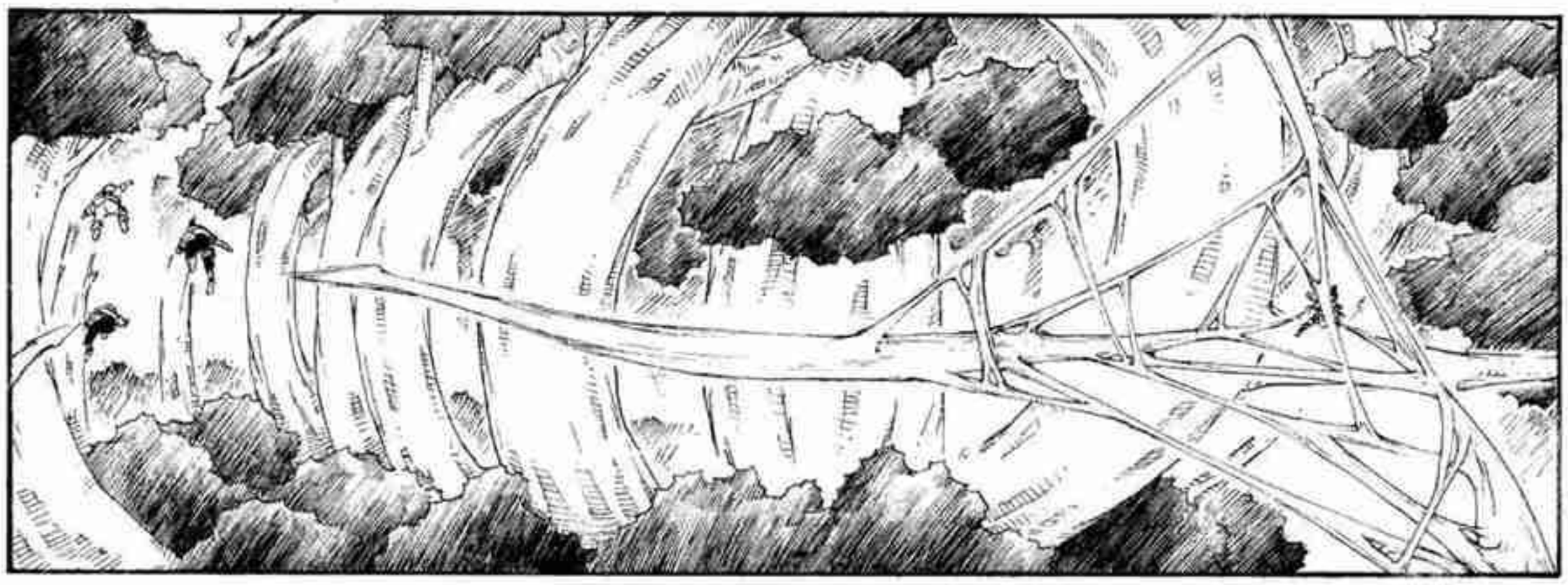
I'LL CATCH UP TO YOU LATER, TOO!!
NOW GO!

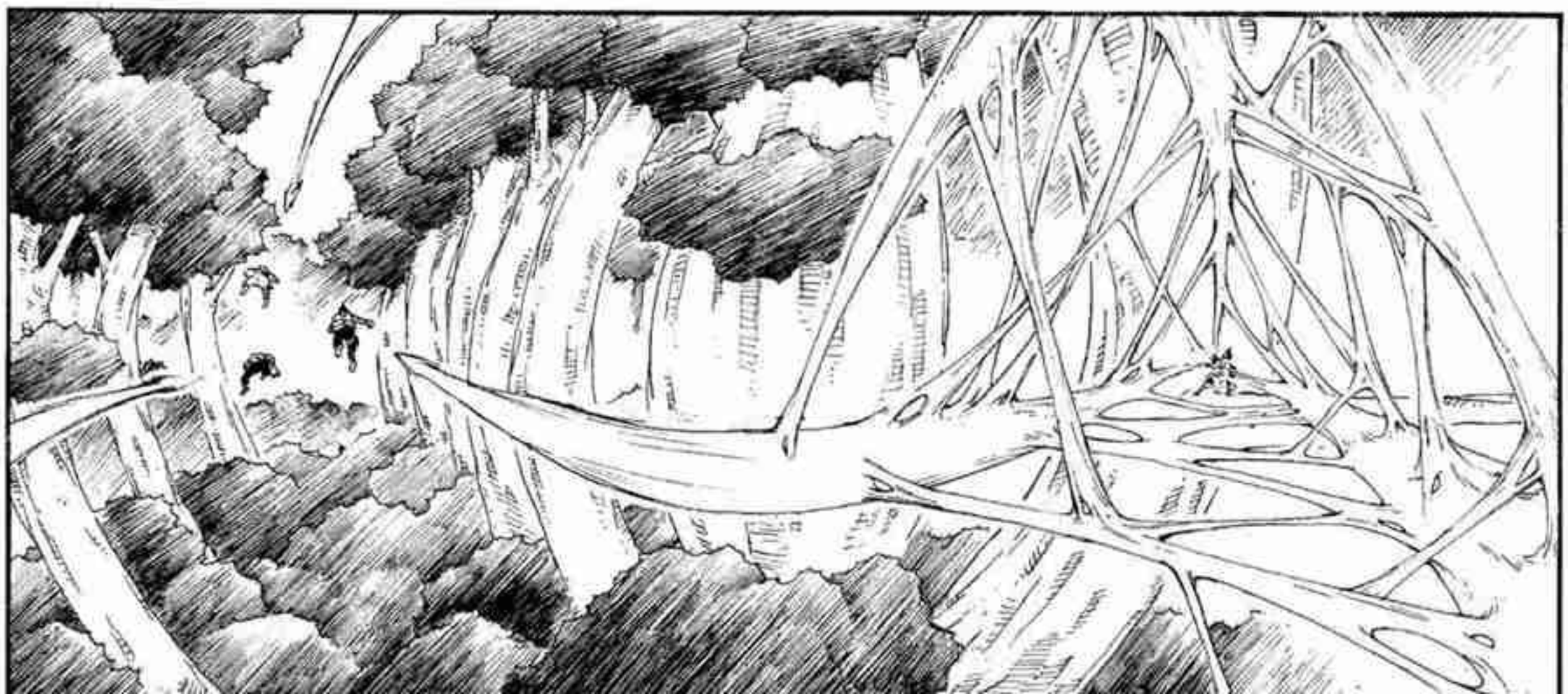
...

YUP!

HUMPH... YOU AIN'T GETTING AWAY!
FWIP
BYAKUGAN!





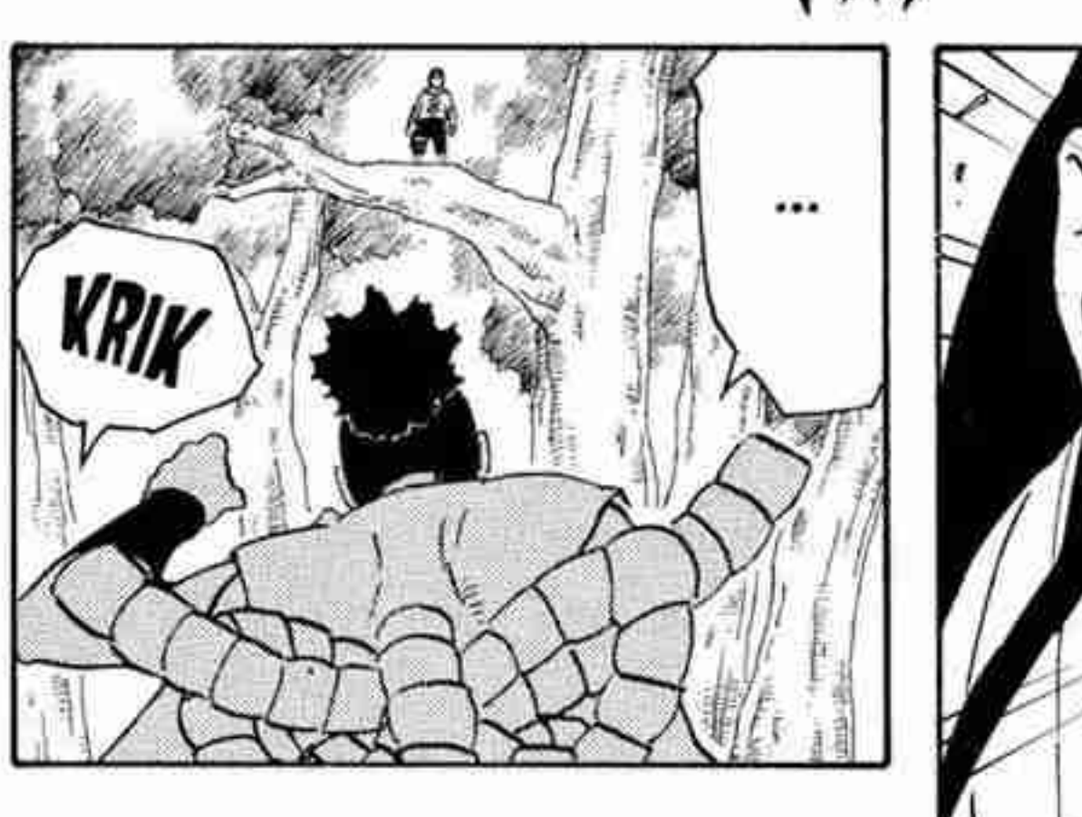


WHOOOSH...
THW
!
!
!!

THIS GUY'S GOOD...!
...!

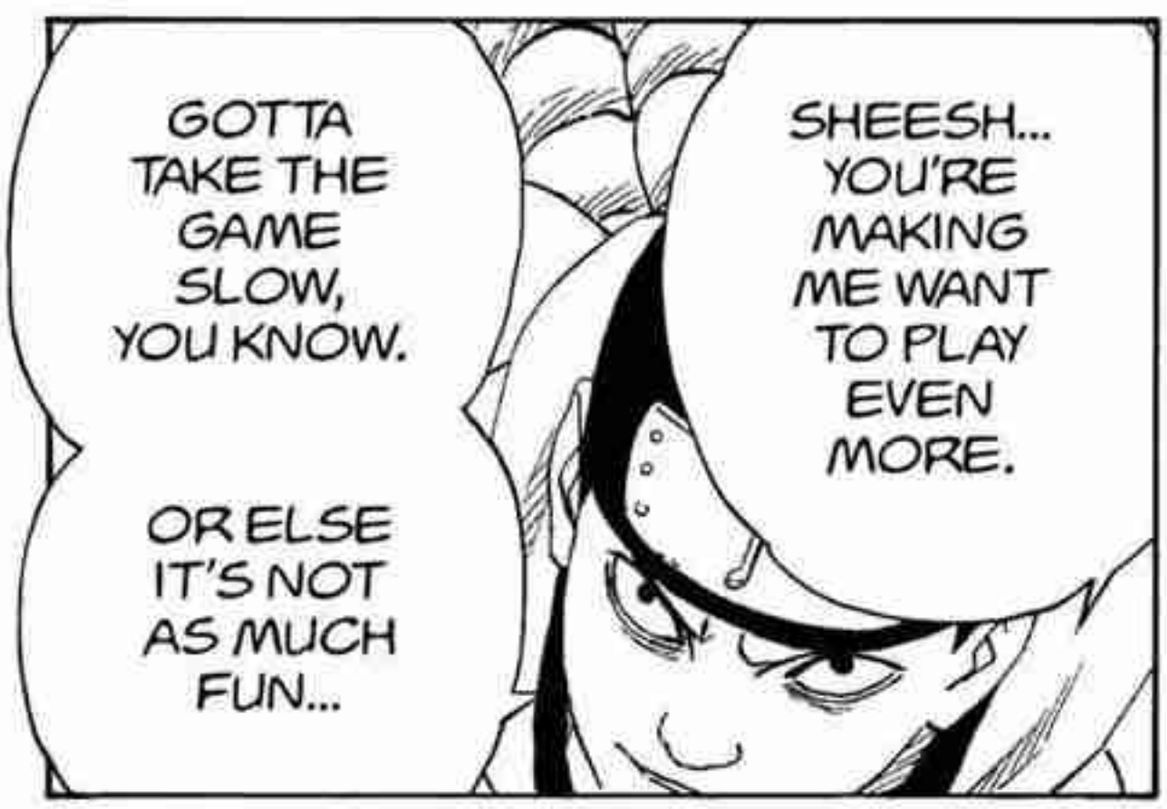
FWIP
BUT... THAT DOESN'T MEAN I'M GIVING UP.
FWIP
FWIP

WHAP
WHAP
WHAP
WHAP


KRIK
...

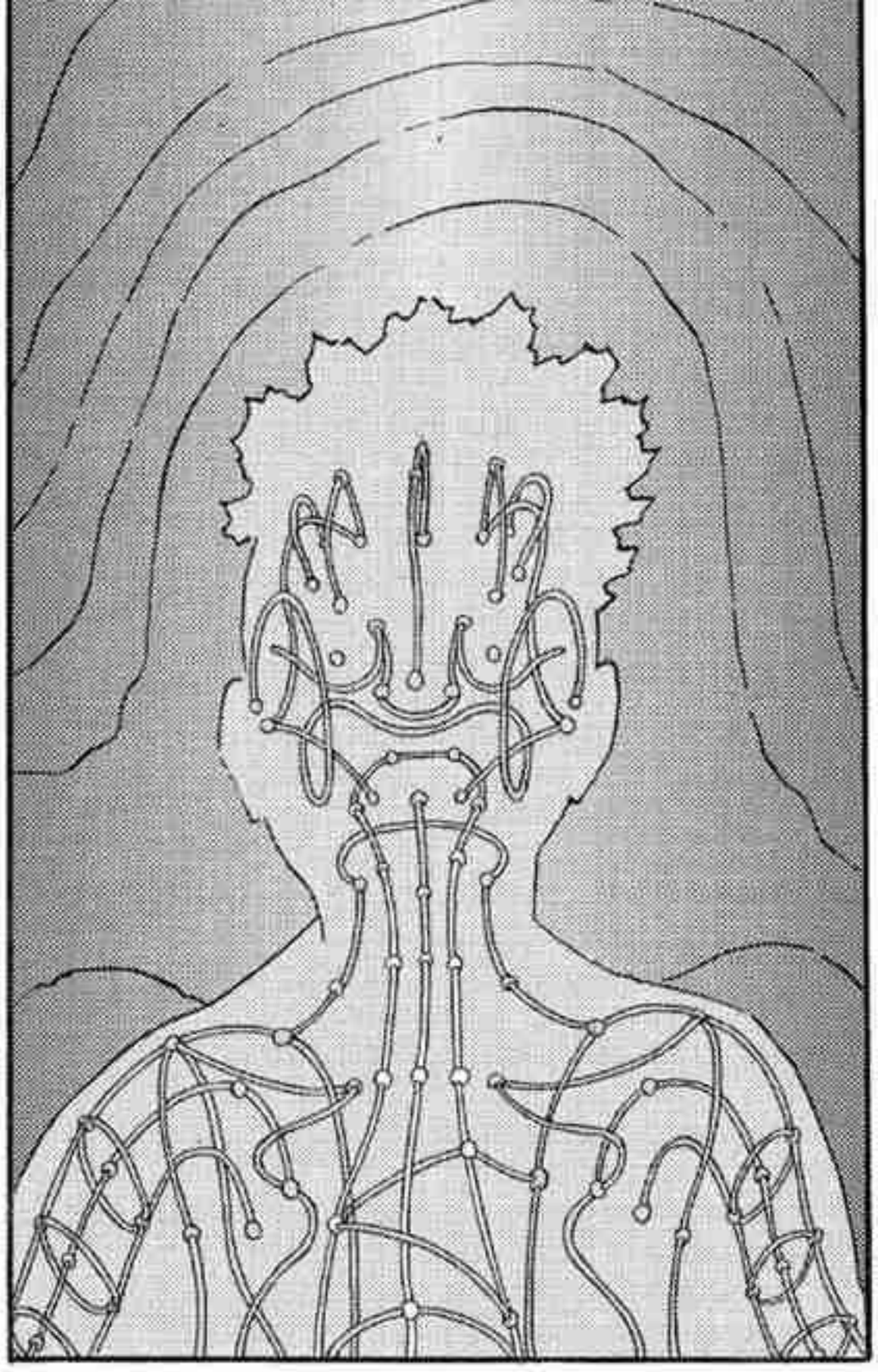
SO YOU'RE THE STRONGEST...
...OF THE BUNCH, HUH.

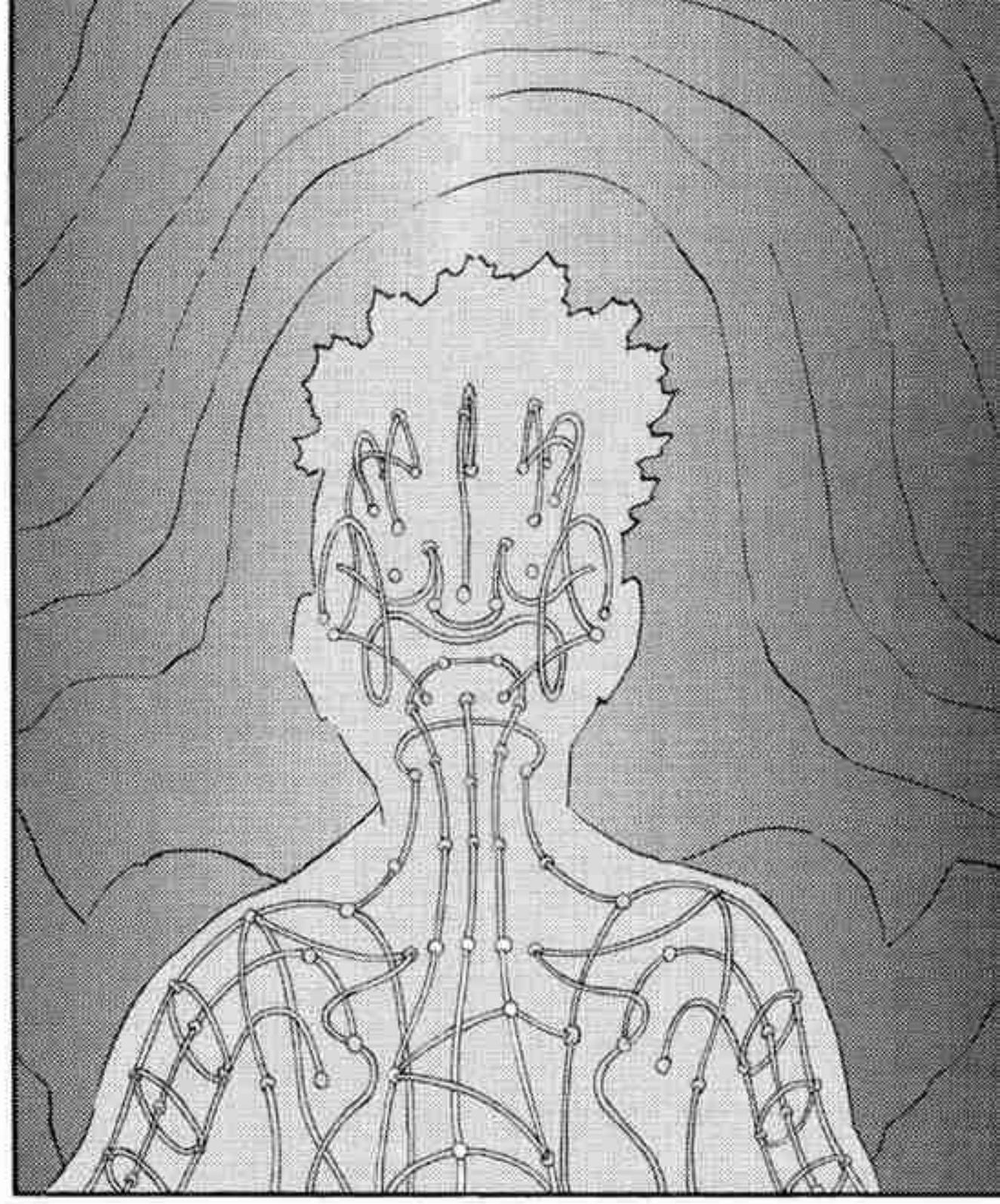
NEVER MIND.
HEH HEH... WELL...

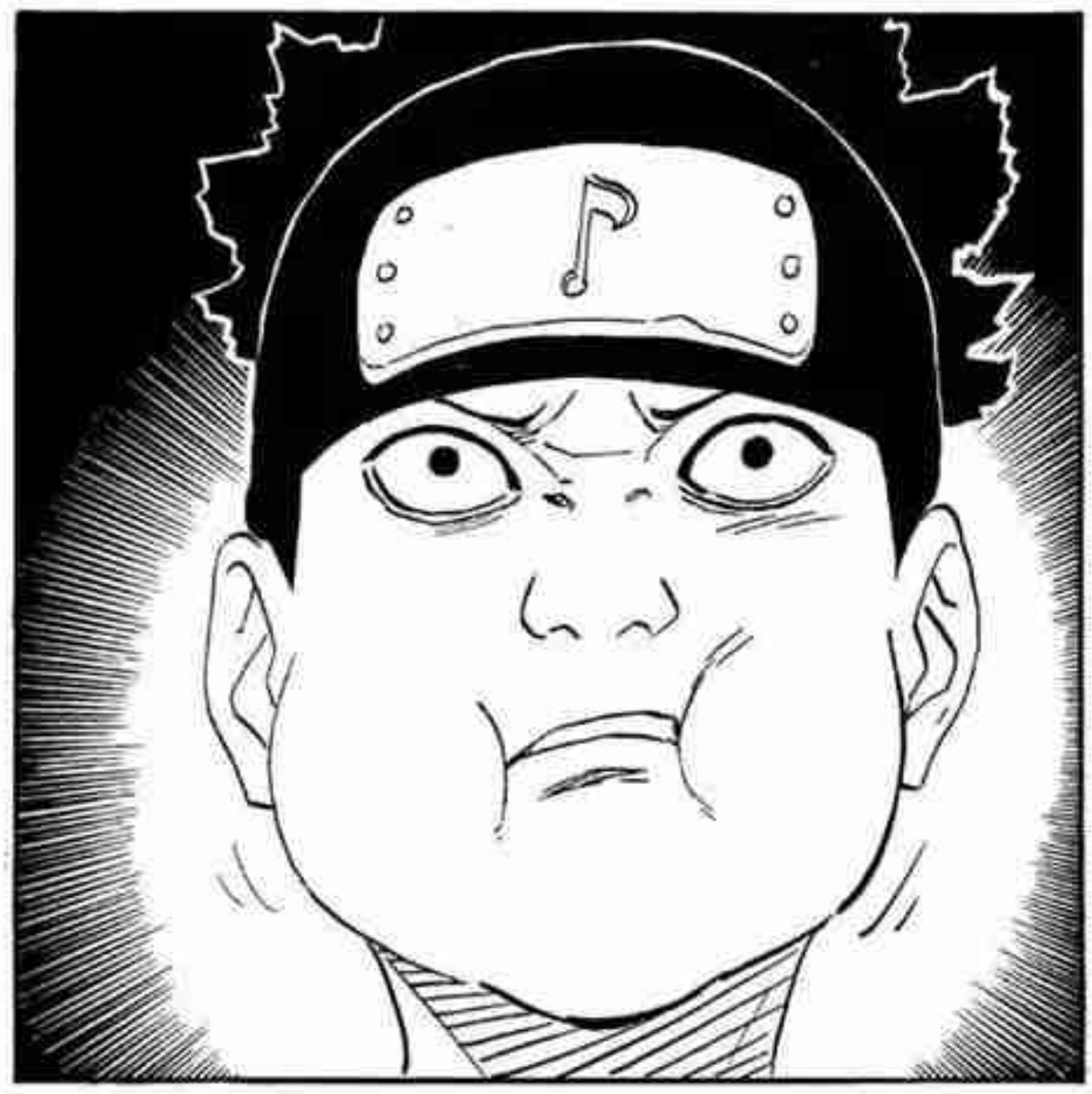

GOTTA TAKE THE GAME SLOW, YOU KNOW.
OR ELSE IT'S NOT AS MUCH FUN...
SHEESH... YOU'RE MAKING ME WANT TO PLAY EVEN MORE.

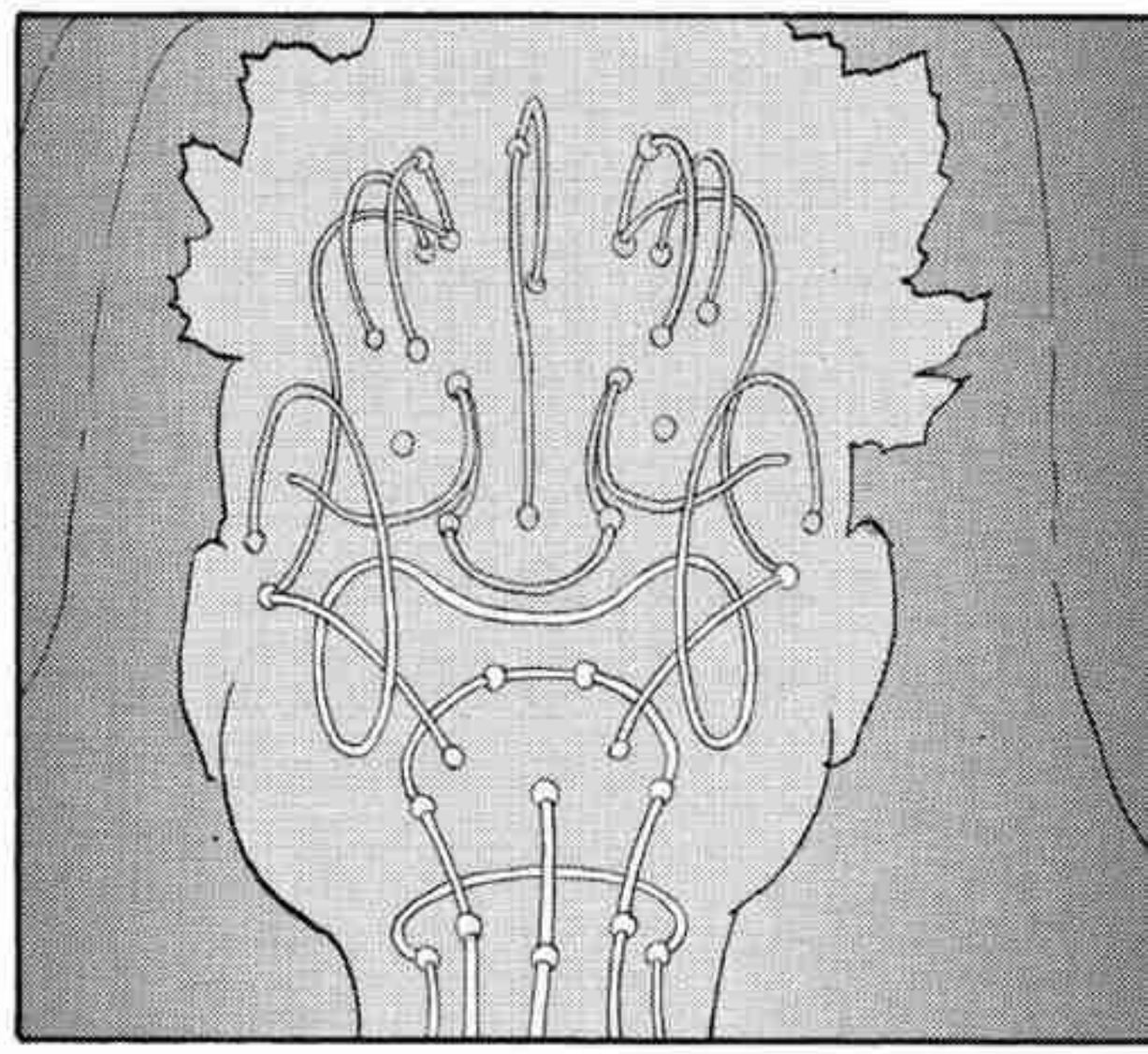
FIRST, I NEED AT LEAST THREE MINUTES TO TOY WITH YOU BEFORE YOU DIE!

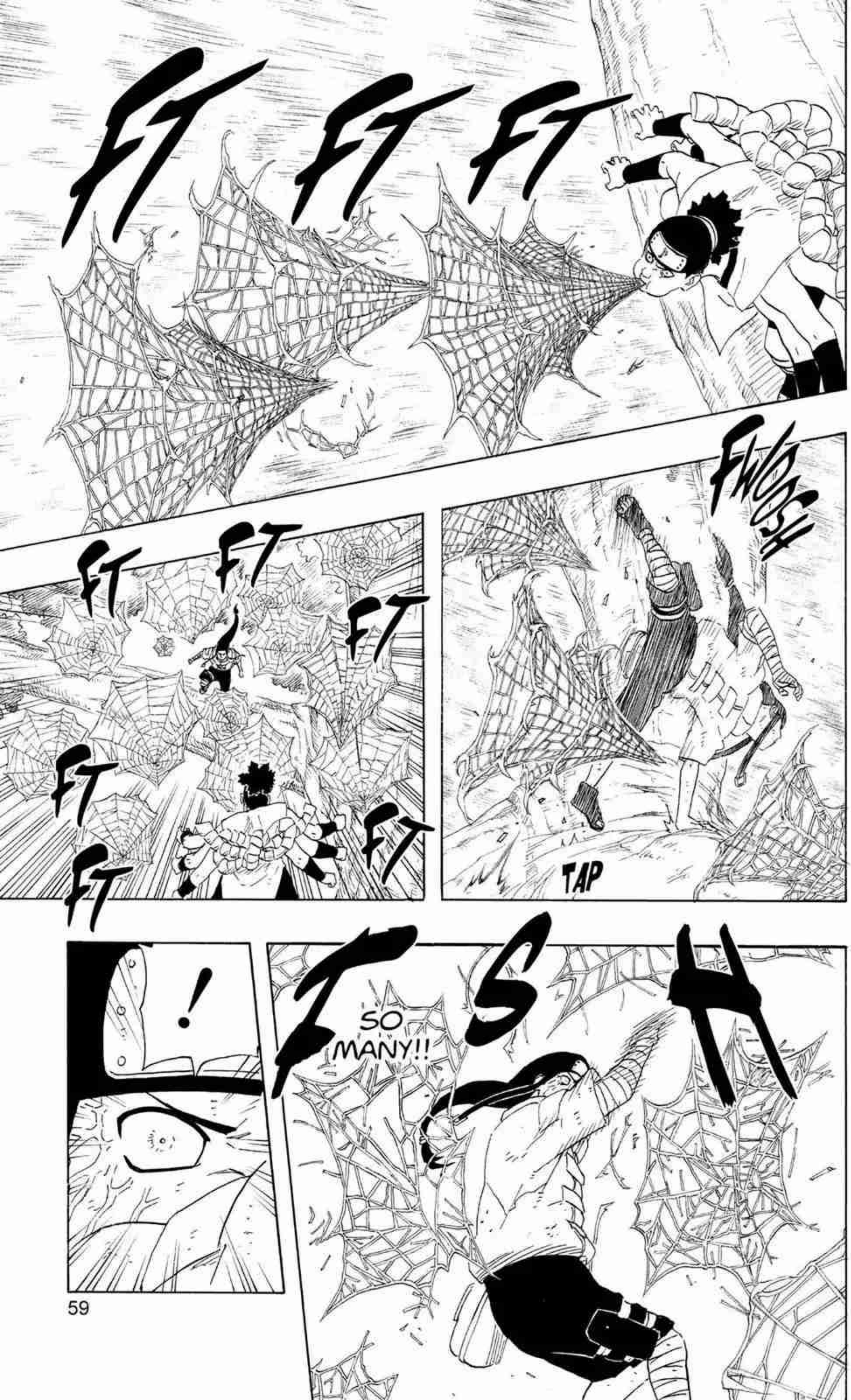

BYAKU-GAN!









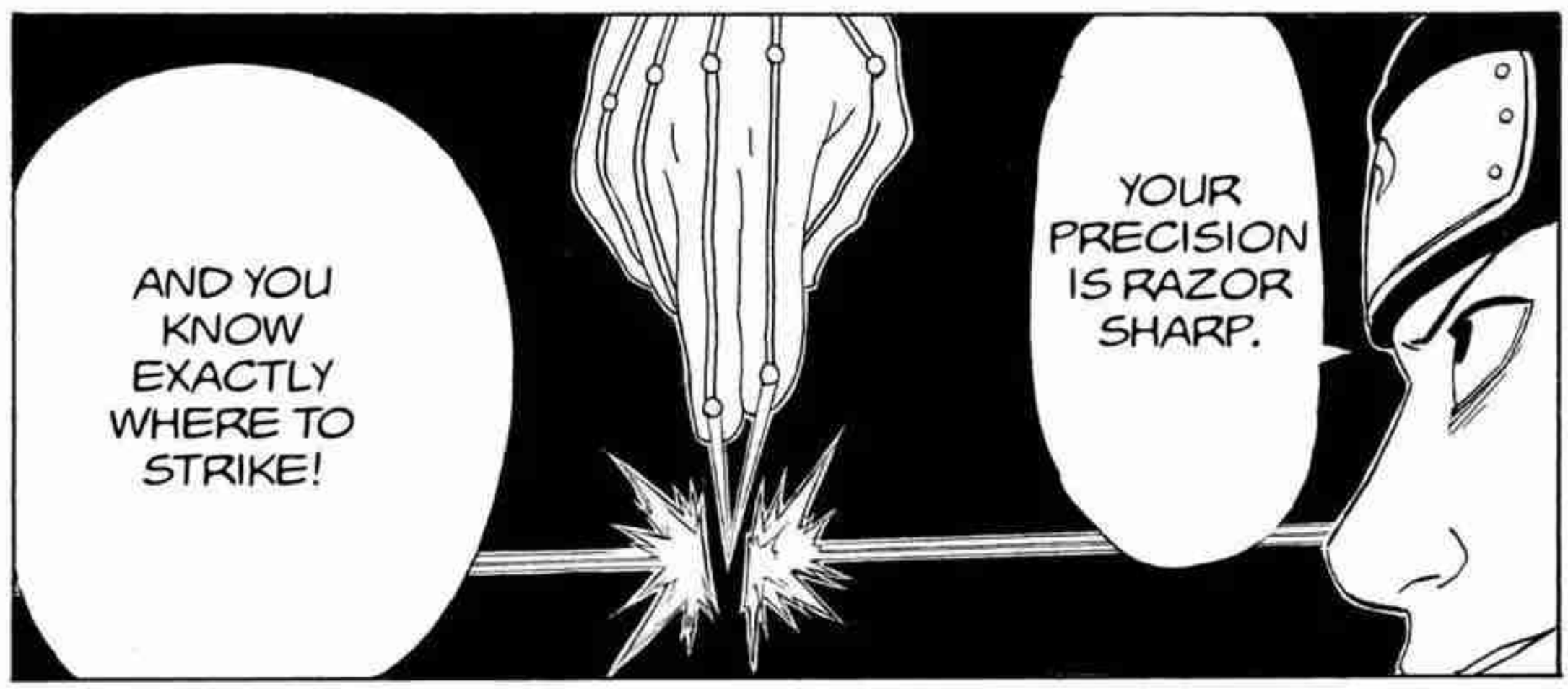

FT FT FT
FT FT FT FT FT
FLUSH
TAP
!
SO MANY!!

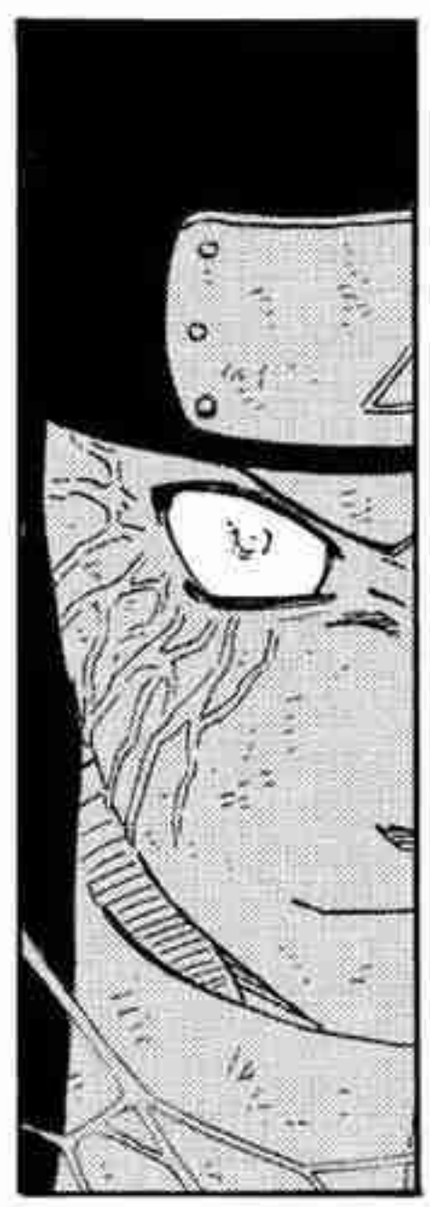
SWHO
!
WHAP WAP WAP WAP WAP
WHUMP
HUMPH... GOTCHA!
KLUNK
KLUNK

READ
THIS
WAY

YA GOT SHARP EYES...
YOU'RE GOOD WITH CHAKRA.

GRRR...
UGH...


AND YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHERE TO STRIKE!
YOUR PRECISION IS RAZOR SHARP.



...YOU WON'T SEVER MY THREADS!
IF YOU CAN'T MOVE YOUR ARMS...

LORD OROCHI-MARU WARNED ME.
HUMPH...
GENTLE FIST, HUH...

IT'S ONLY BEEN A SINGLE MINUTE...

...BUT I'M BORED OF YOU ALREADY...

WHUMP

ONCE YOU FIGURE OUT THE STRATEGY BEHIND THE GAME...

...IT SUDDENLY STOPS BEING FUN...

CHOMP CHOMP

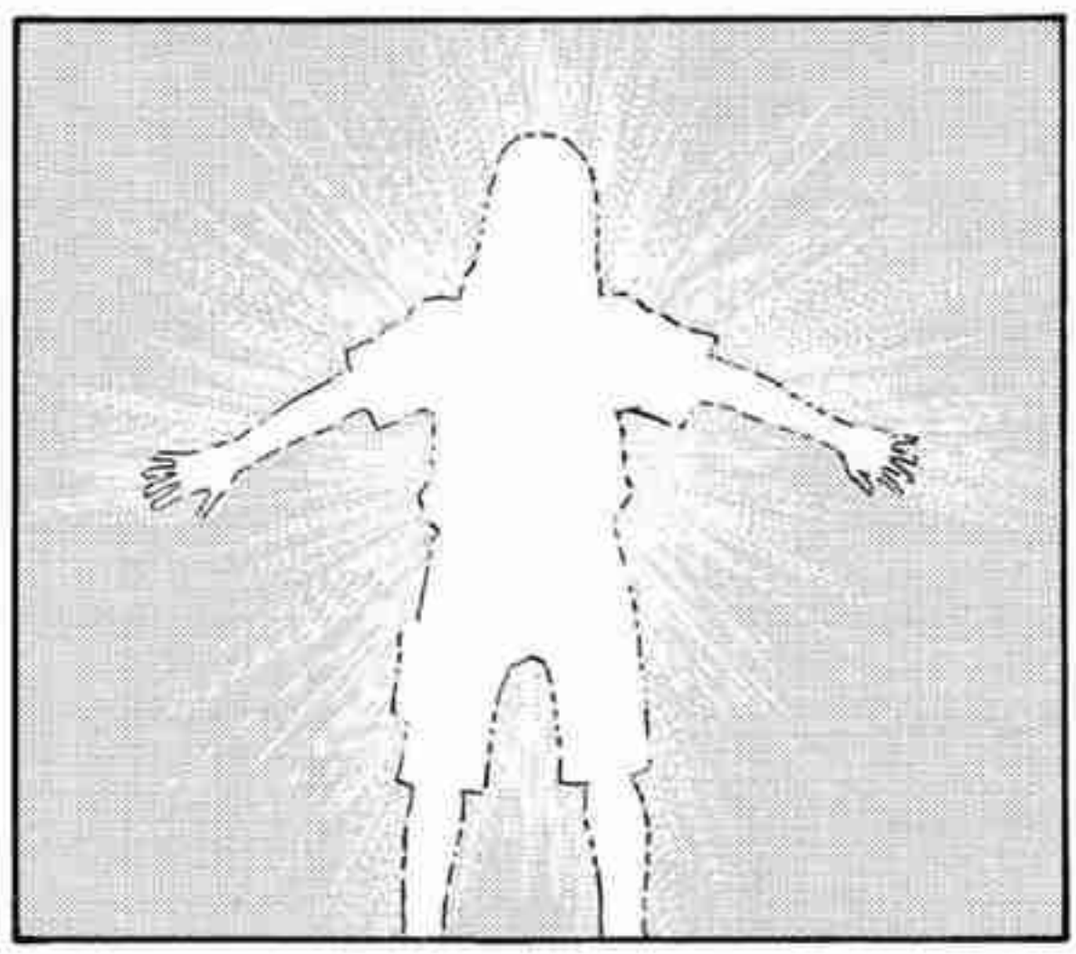
HUF

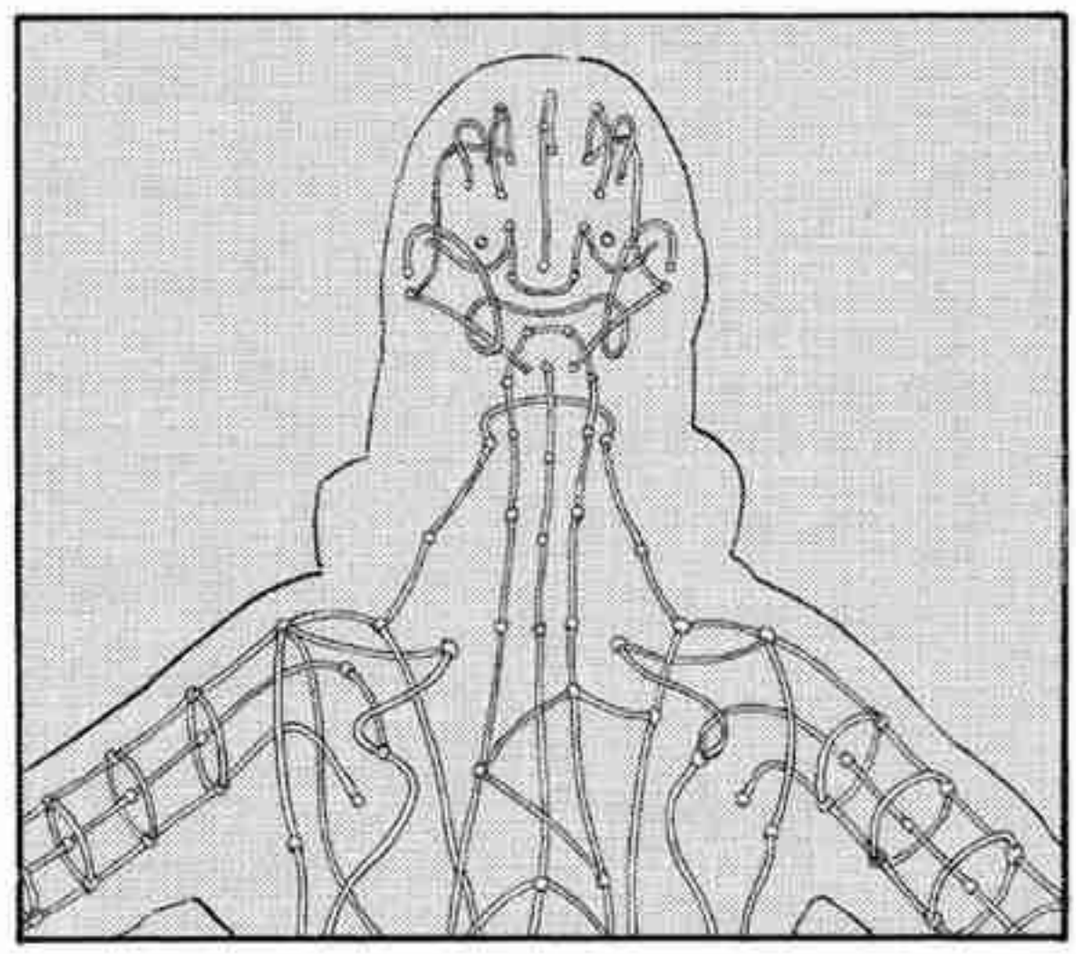
PUFF...

DIE!!

DFF

VOOSH
KUMO-NENKIN! GUM-STYLE SPIDER THREAD!!





PLINK

!

CHOK
FWO OSH

WHAT?!
?!!

CHK CHK

HOW?!

SWISH...
!!

SHA

8 TRIGRAMS 64 PALMS!!

GENTLE FIST STYLE...

NARUTO
TM

# Number 194: Taking Stock

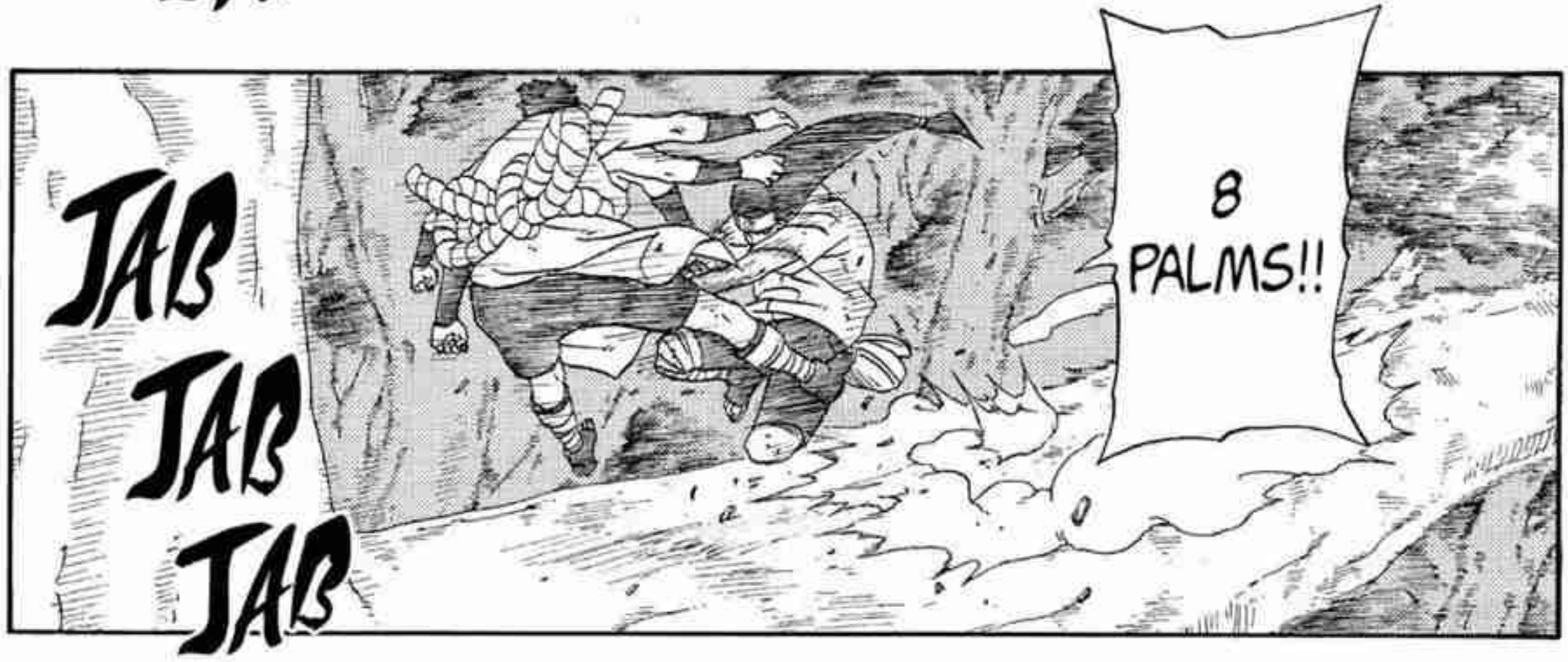
坤
離
坎
坎

FOOSH

SHOOT...!
SNAP

ARGH!
JAB
JAB
8 TRIGRAMS 2 PALMS!!

JAB
JAB
JAB
JAB
4 PALMS!!


JAB
JAB
JAB
JAB
8 PALMS!!

JAB
JAB
JAB
JAB
16 PALMS!!

JAB
JAB
JAB
JAB
JAB
JAB
32 PALMS!!

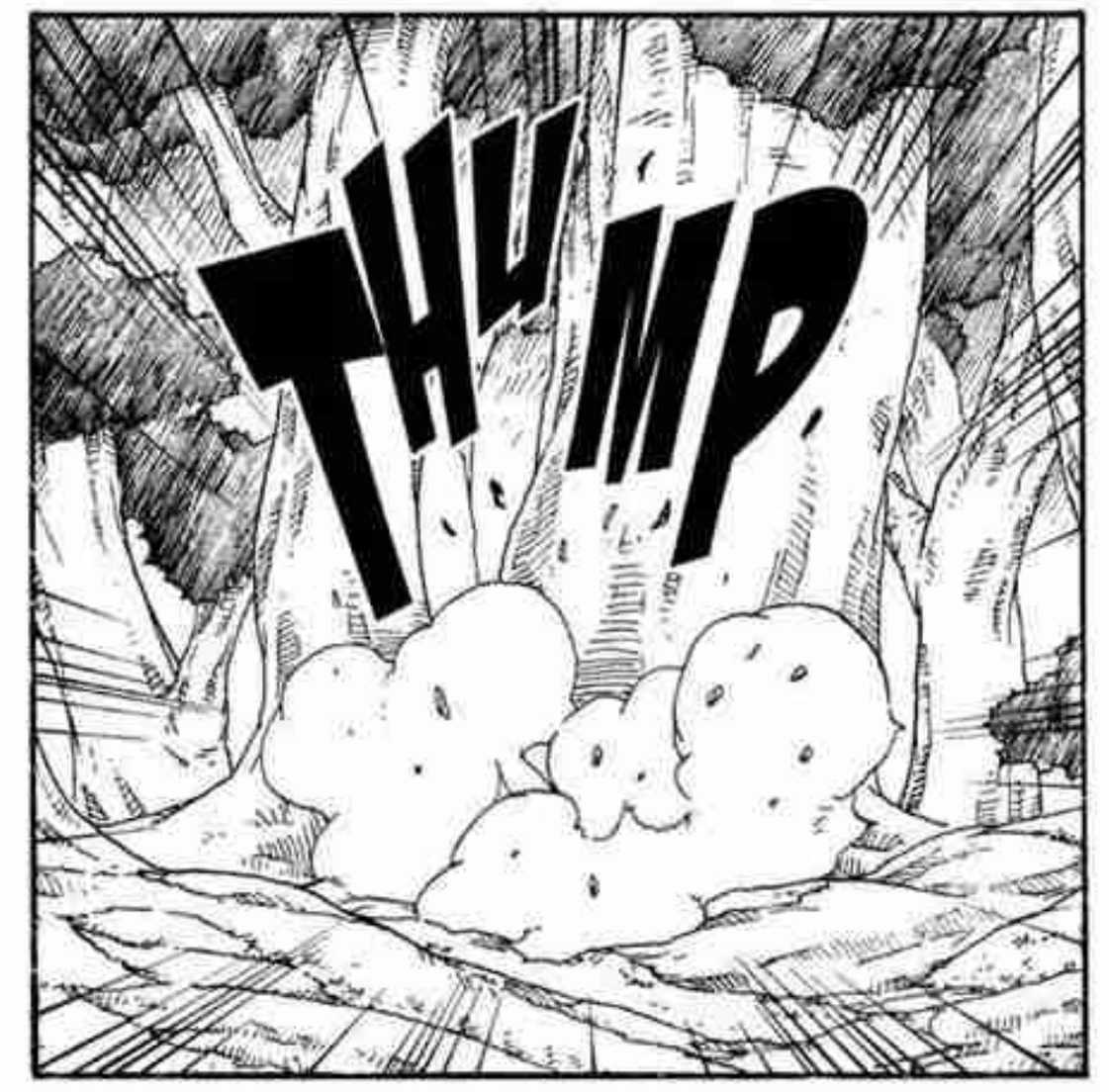
JAB JAB JAB

KRAK

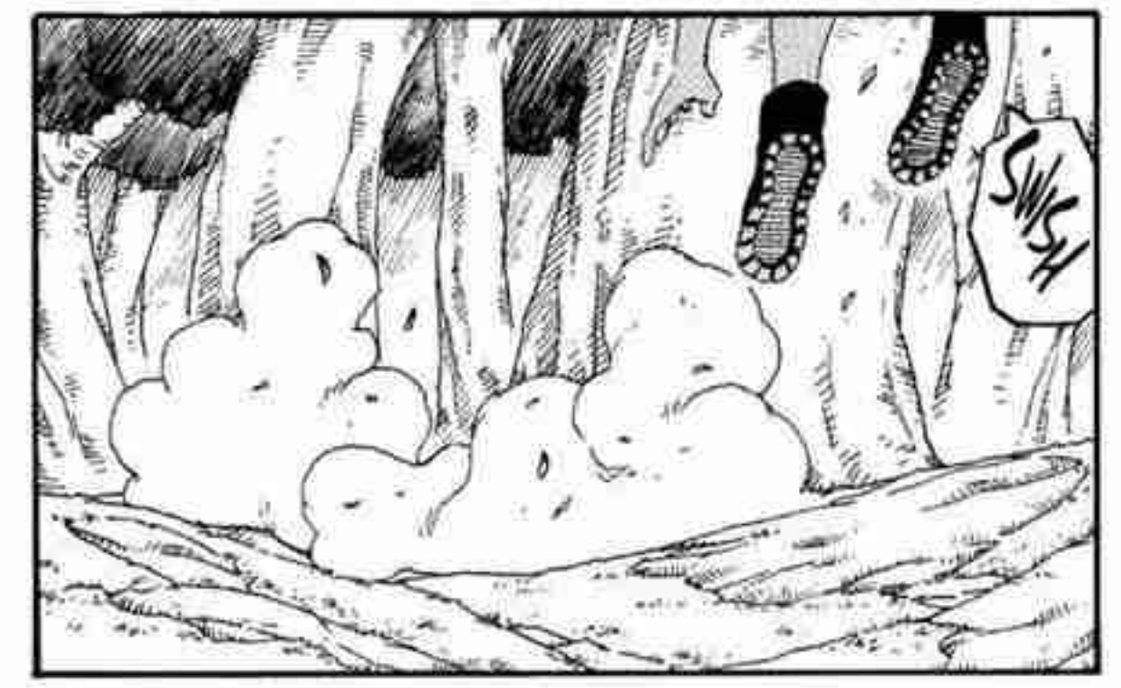
64 PALMS!!!

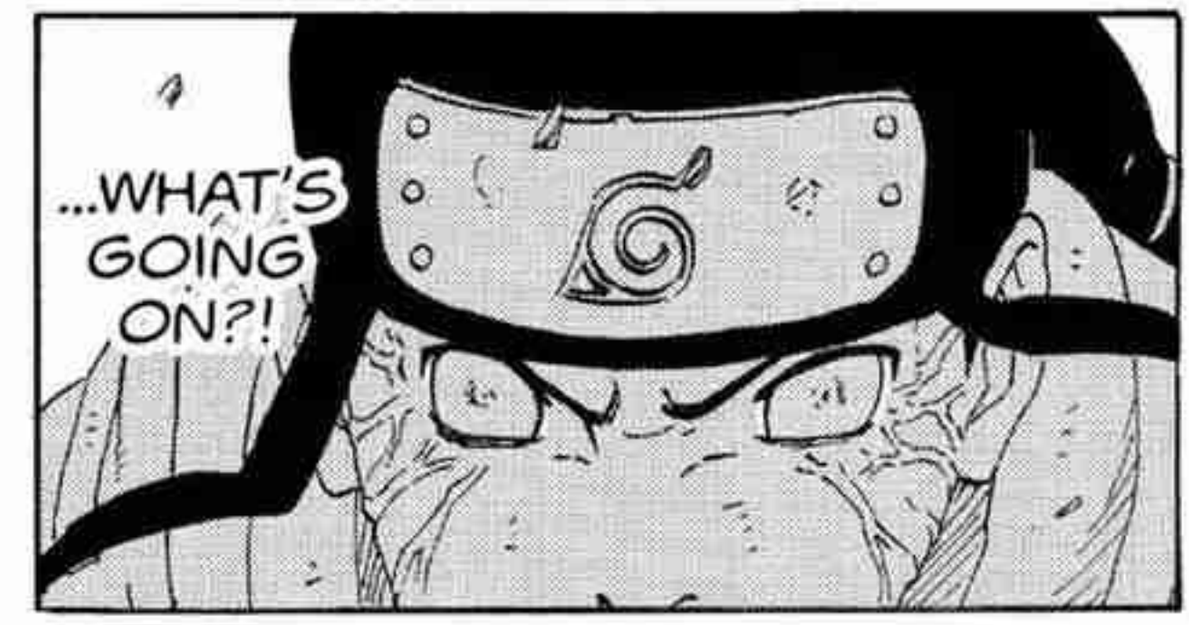
BLAM

READ
THIS
WAY


THUMP

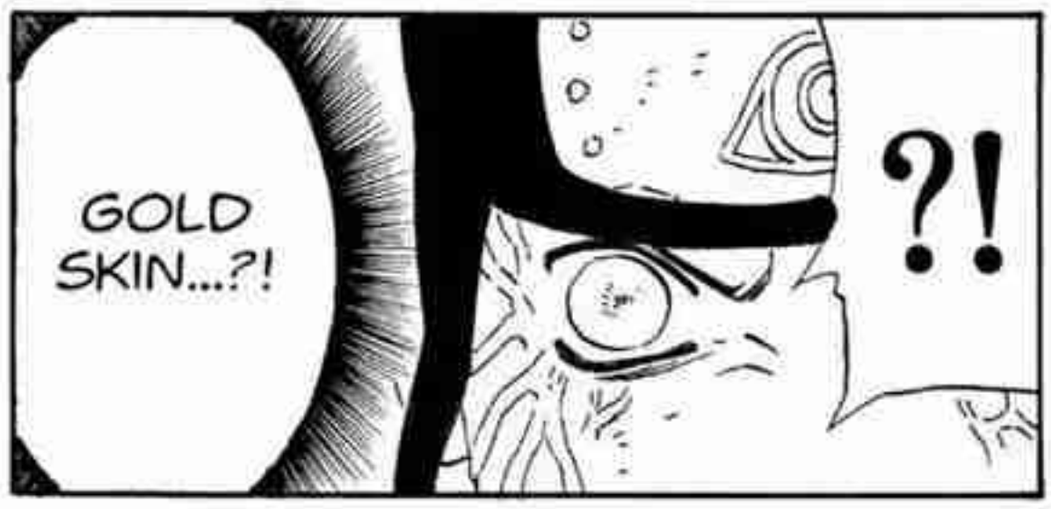
SNAP
SNAP CRACK


SWISH

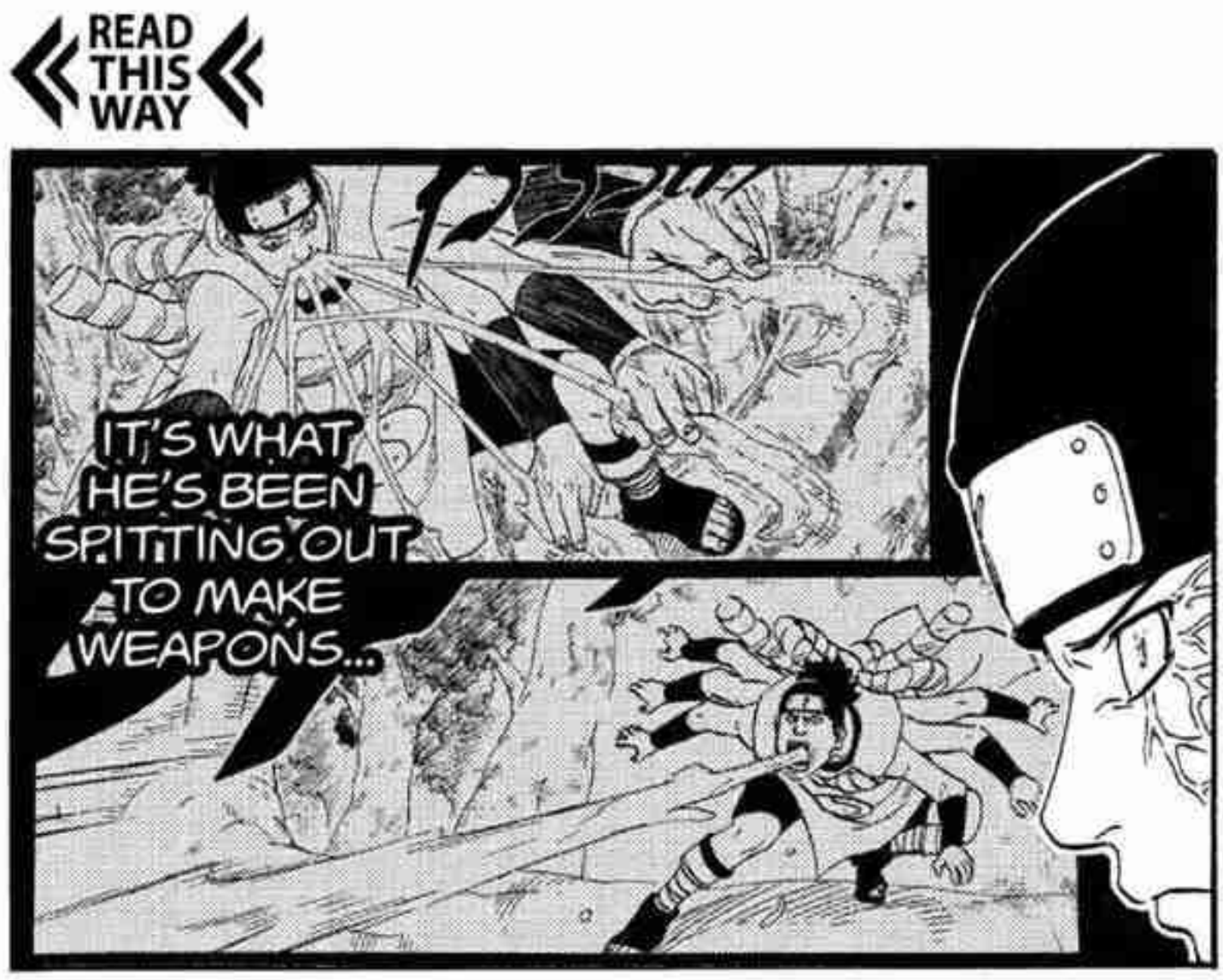

...WHAT'S GOING ON?!

...
TAP

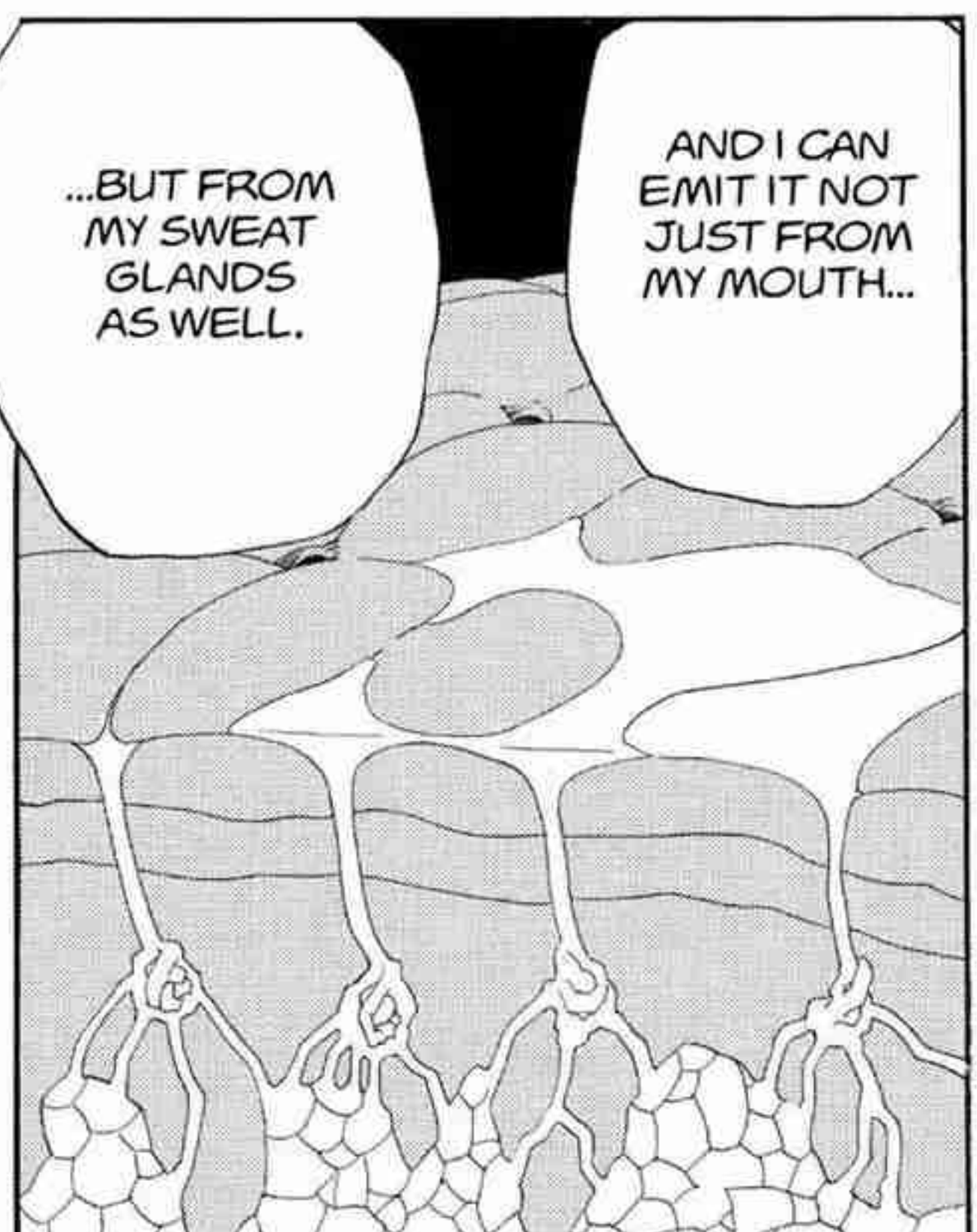
FWAP...

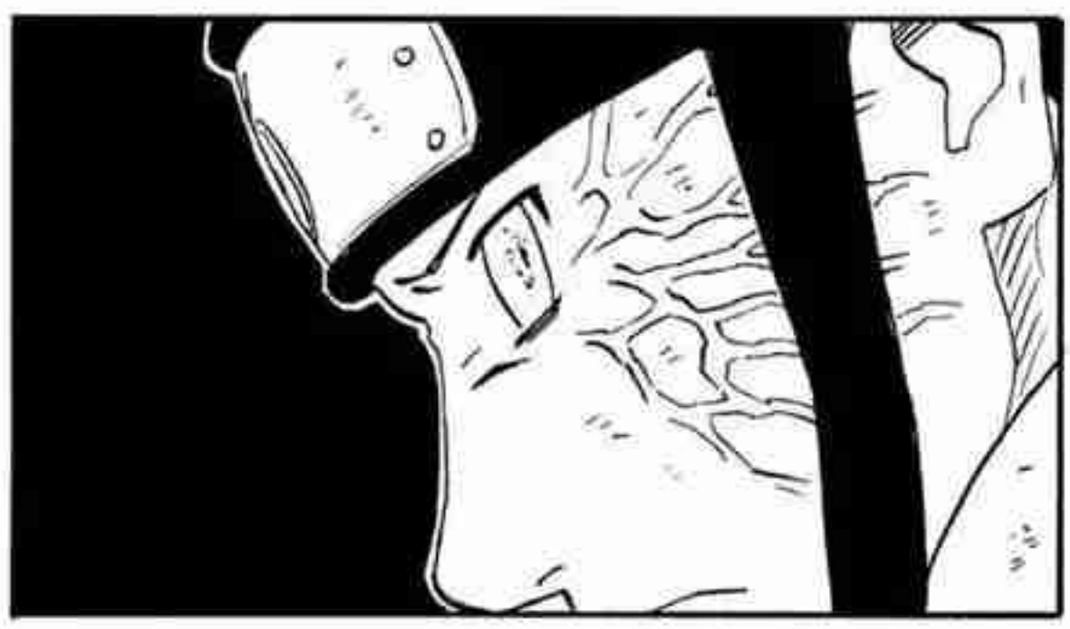


KRINKLE...
KRINKLE
KRINKLE...



(*CHAKRA NETWORK)



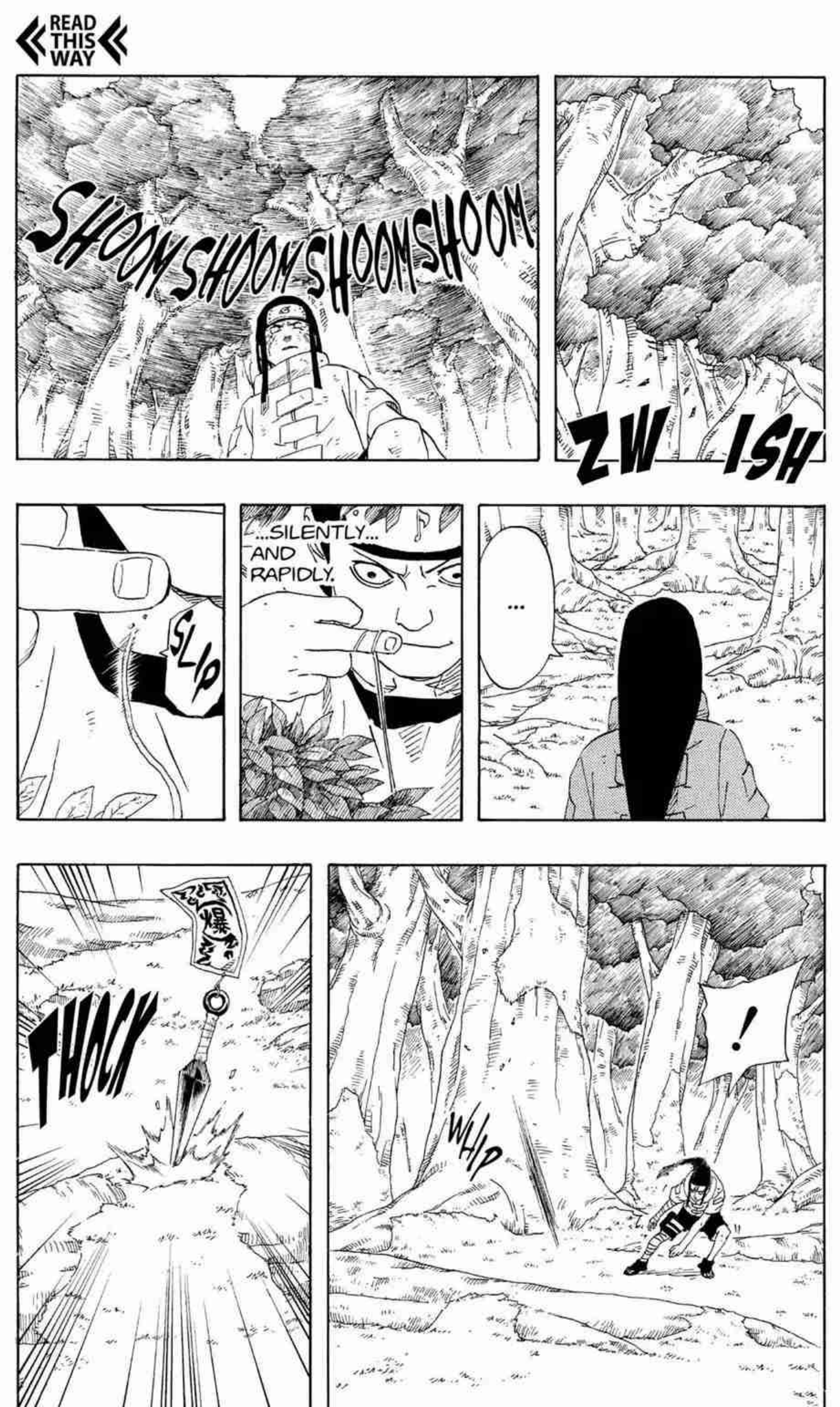


I CAN'T TARGET HIS CHAKRA POINTS...
WHICH MEANS...

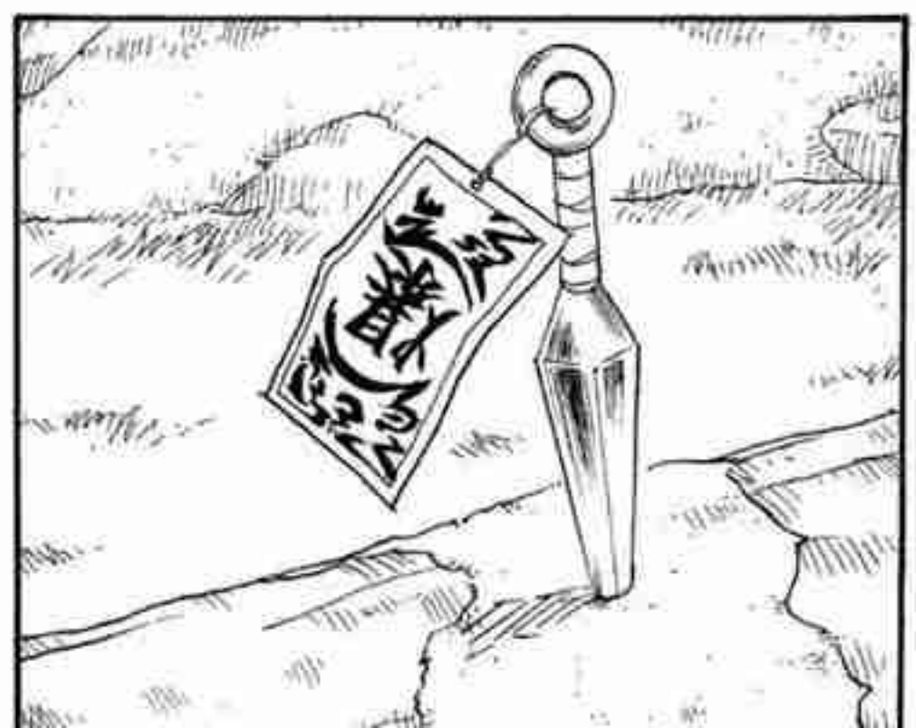
MY ONLY OPTION'S TO HIT HIS BLIND SPOT FROM FAR AWAY...

...AND BECAUSE OF THE GENTLE FIST CLOSE COMBAT'S A NO-NO.
THE KUMOSHIBARI DOESN'T WORK AGAINST HIM...

FWOOSH
!


READ THIS WAY
SHOOM SHOOM SHOOM SHOOM
ZWISH
SLIP
...SILENTLY... AND RAPIDLY.
...
THOCK
WHIP
!

GAME OVER!



!
THAT KUNAI WAS A DECOY...!!

READ THIS WAY
?!
WHAT?!
CRACKLE CRACKLE
WHIR
WHIRRRR
8 TRIGRAMS PALM ROTATION!!
WHUP
WHUP
WHUP
WHUP
WHUP

AND THAT DEFENSIVE MOVE... HE USED CHAKRA TO DEFLECT A PHYSICAL ATTACK?!

N...NO WAY...!

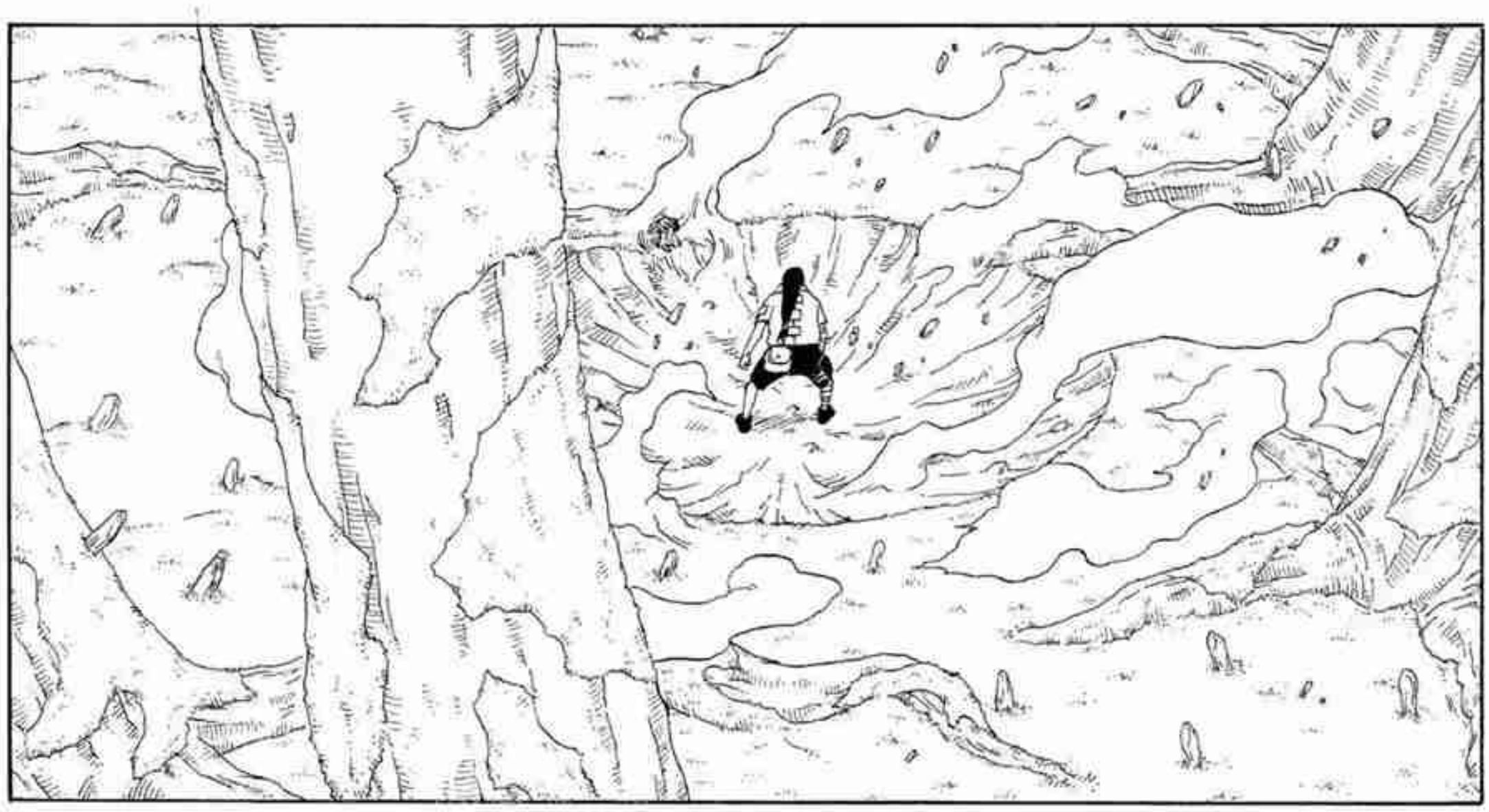
DOES HE HAVE EYES IN THE BACK OF HIS HEAD OR SOMETHING?!

THOK

THOK

THOK

THOK



KLUNK...
HE CAN SEE ME?!

FWOOSH
PSHAW!
FWOOSH

WHAT THE HECK IS HE...?!
I KNOW YOU'RE OVER THERE. COME ON OUT.

FWOOSH

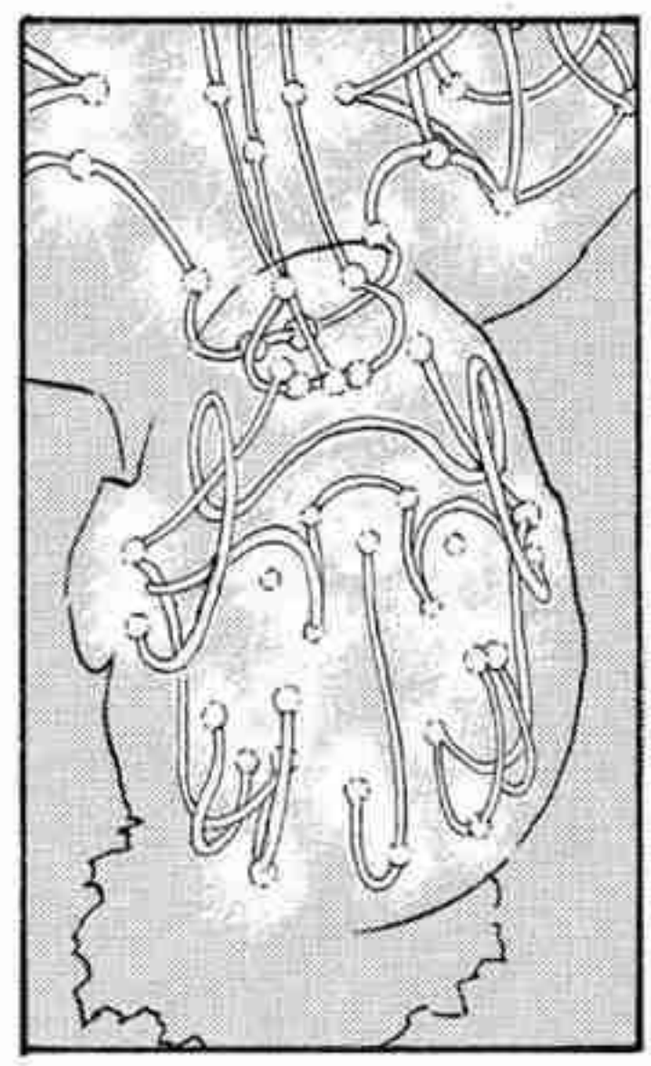
UNBELIEVABLE OCULAR SKILL!
THOSE EYES... I GUESS THEY CAN SEE MORE THAN JUST CHAKRA FLOW...

?!

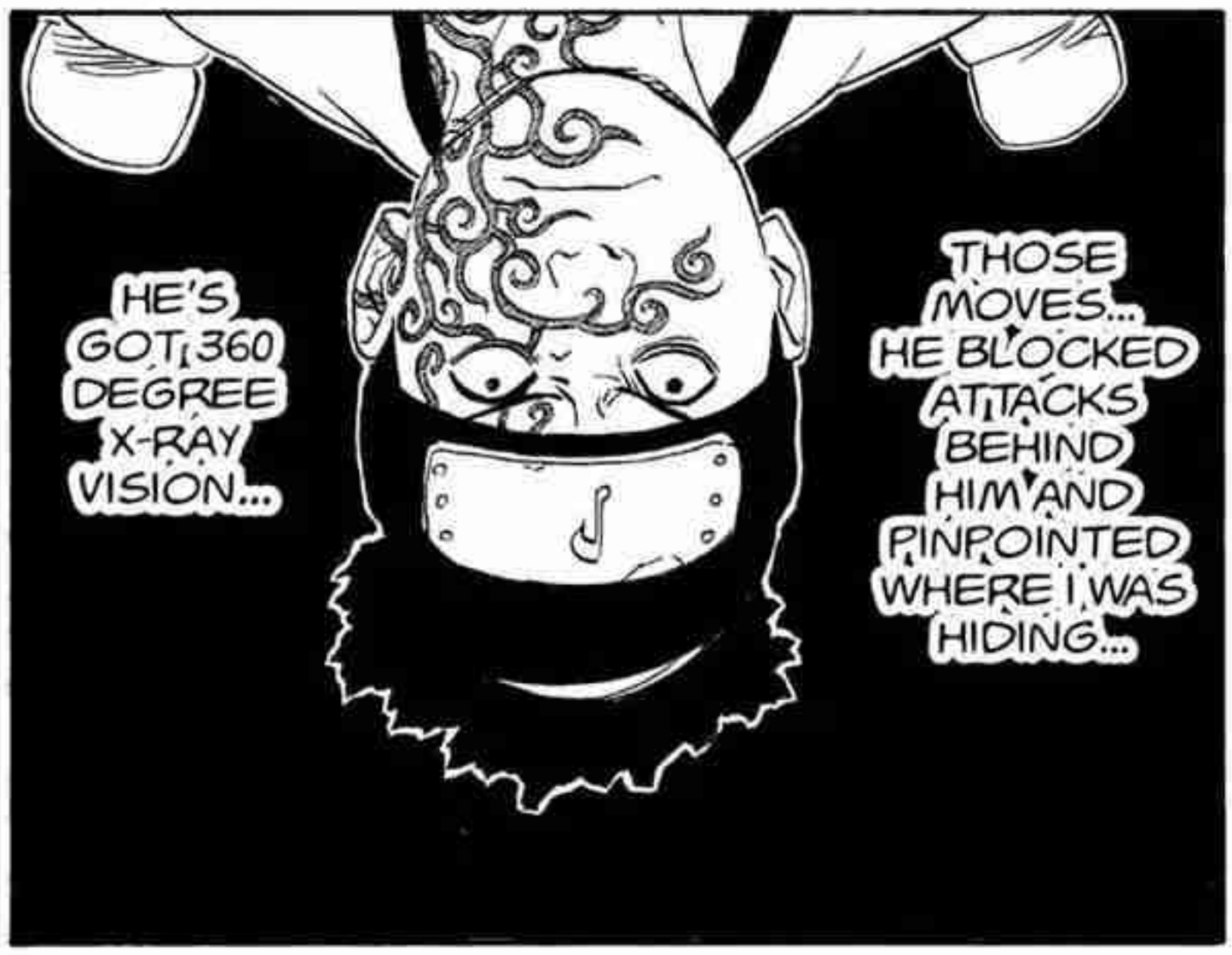
SSSLI

FINE... I'LL GIVE IT TO YOU THAT THIS GAME'S GOT A HIGHER DIFFICULTY LEVEL THAN I EXPECTED!

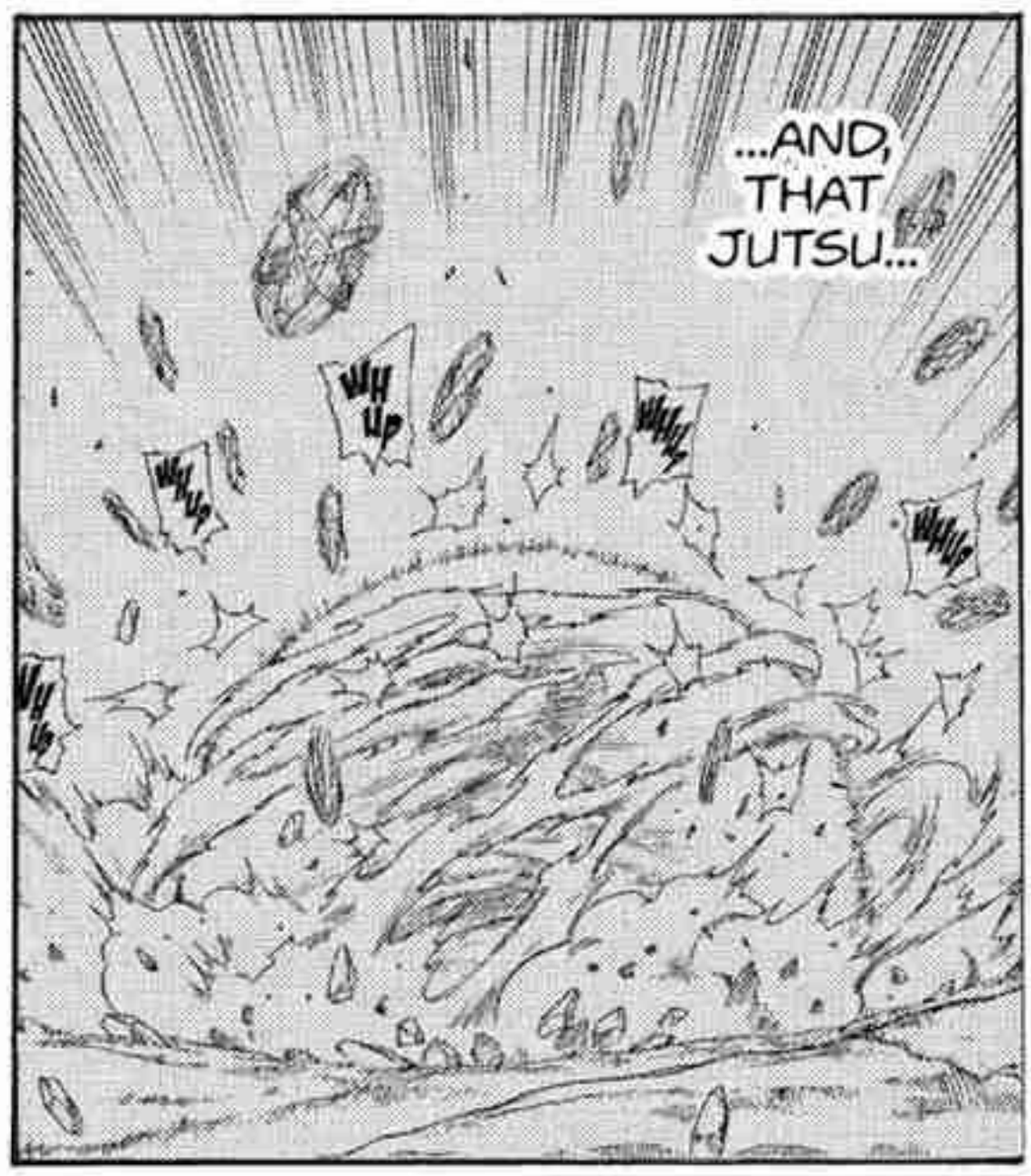
SO FROM HERE ON OUT NO MORE MR. NICE GUY...

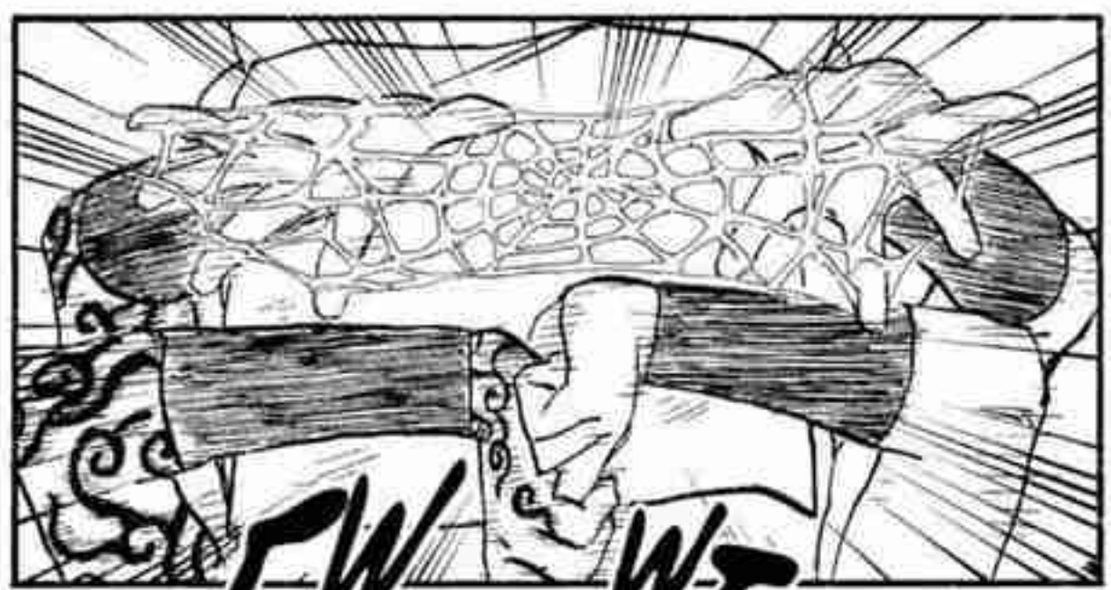


READ
THIS
WAY


HE'S GOT 360 DEGREE X-RAY VISION...
THOSE MOVES... HE BLOCKED ATTACKS BEHIND HIM AND PINPOINTED WHERE I WAS HIDING...

CHOMP
IN THAT CASE...


...AND, THAT JUTSU...
WH UP
WHUP
WHUP
WHUP


FW

BA
M
KUCHIYOSE NO JUTSU! THE ART OF SUMMONING!!

Vi
Oh
Mo

READ
THIS
WAY

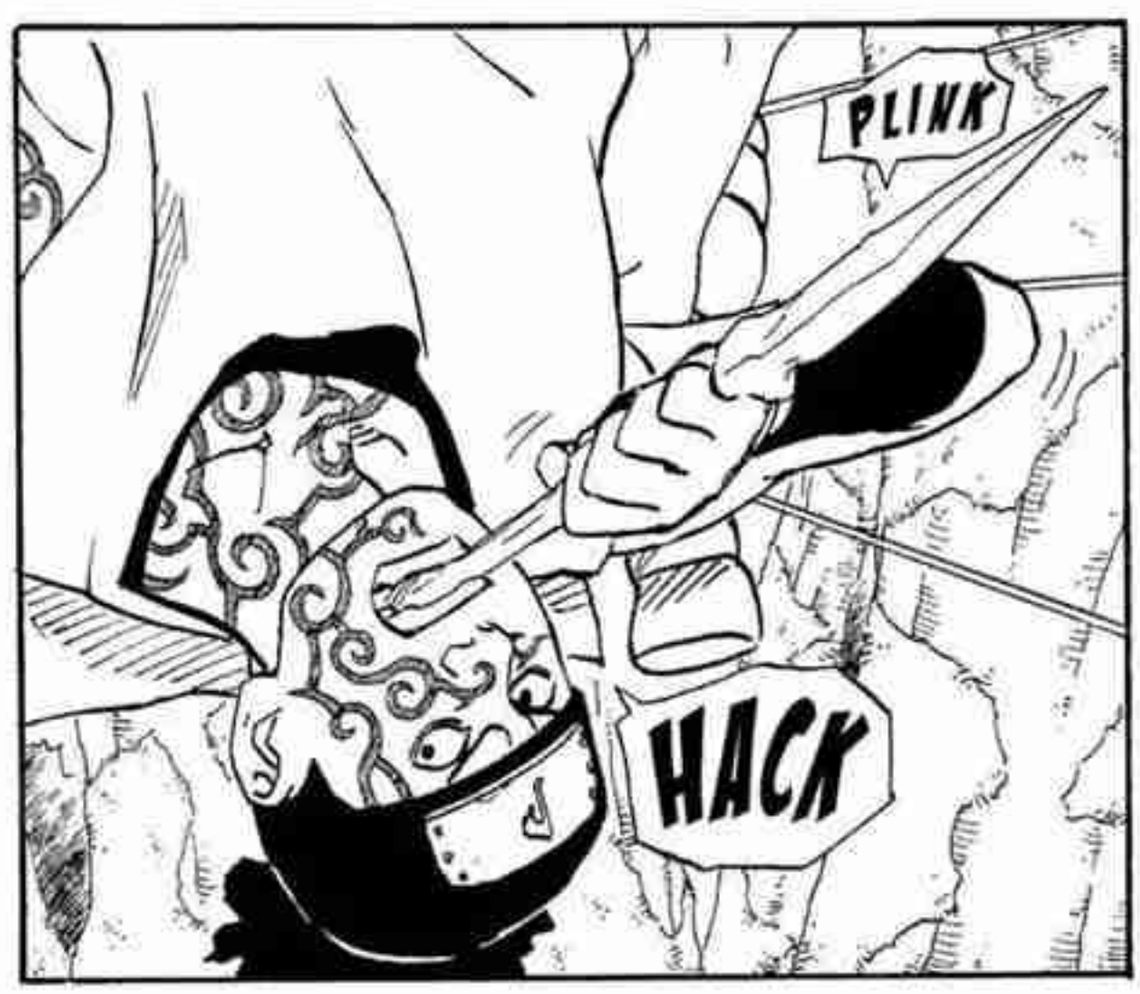
ZURP...
IF HE CAN BLOCK PHYSICAL ATTACKS BY EMITTING LOTS OF CHAKRA AND ROTATING...

I'M... GONNA FIGURE OUT A WAY TO TAKE YOU DOWN!

!

...ALL I NEED TO DO IS STOP THAT ROTATION!
ZLOO...

GO!!
VOING
PSH


PLINK
HACK

WOOOOM
!!

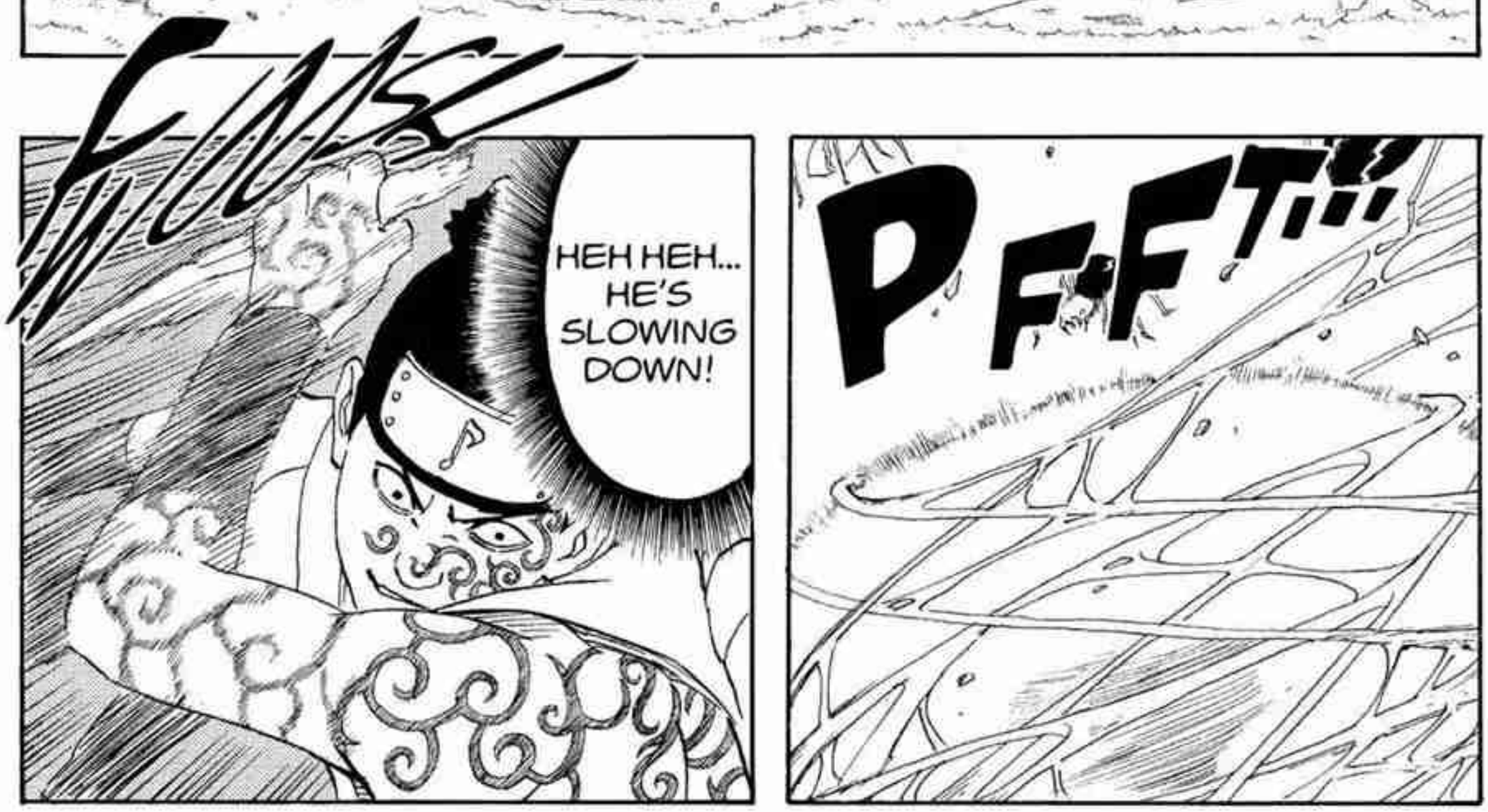
SPIT!!
ガシャ
ガシャ

?!!

SCREEEH

TAP

WAP
WAP
WAP
WAP
WAP
WAP
WAP
8 ROTATION!!

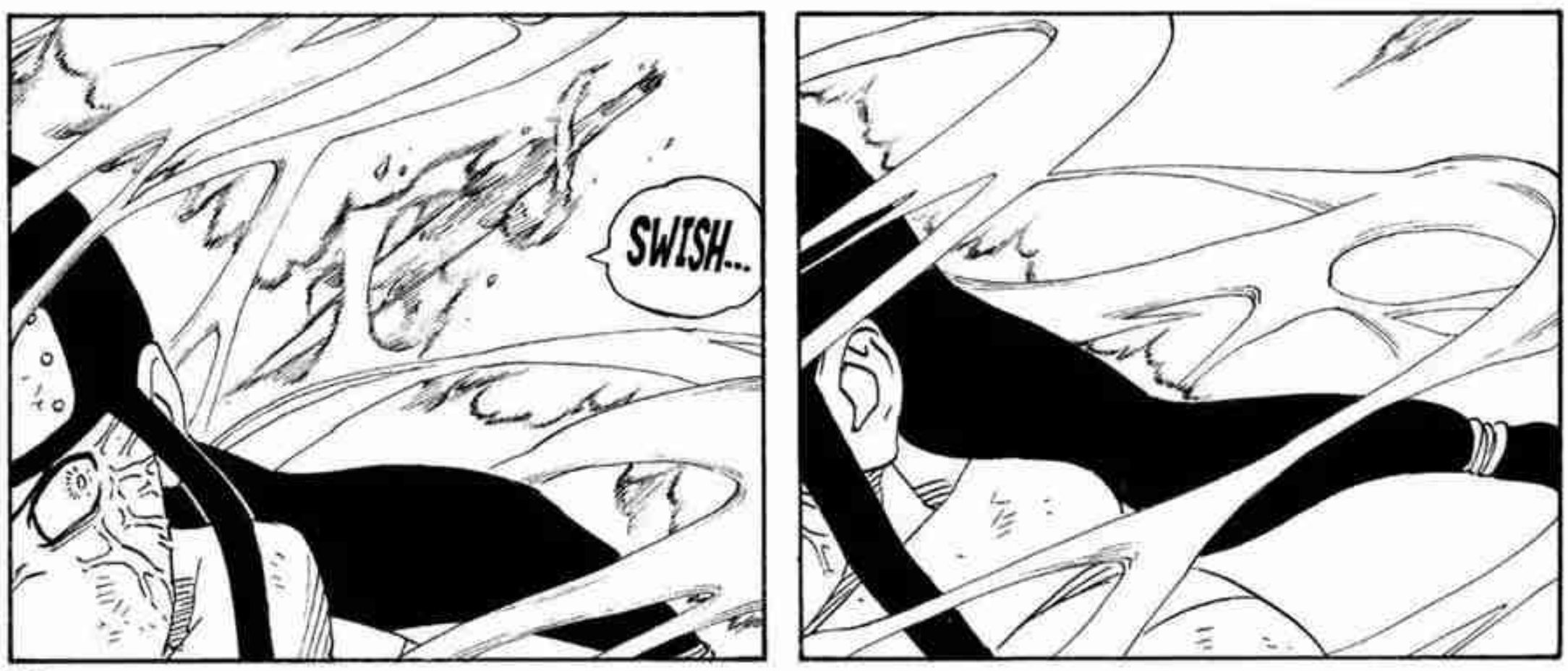


NARUTO
TM

# Number 195: Capture...!!

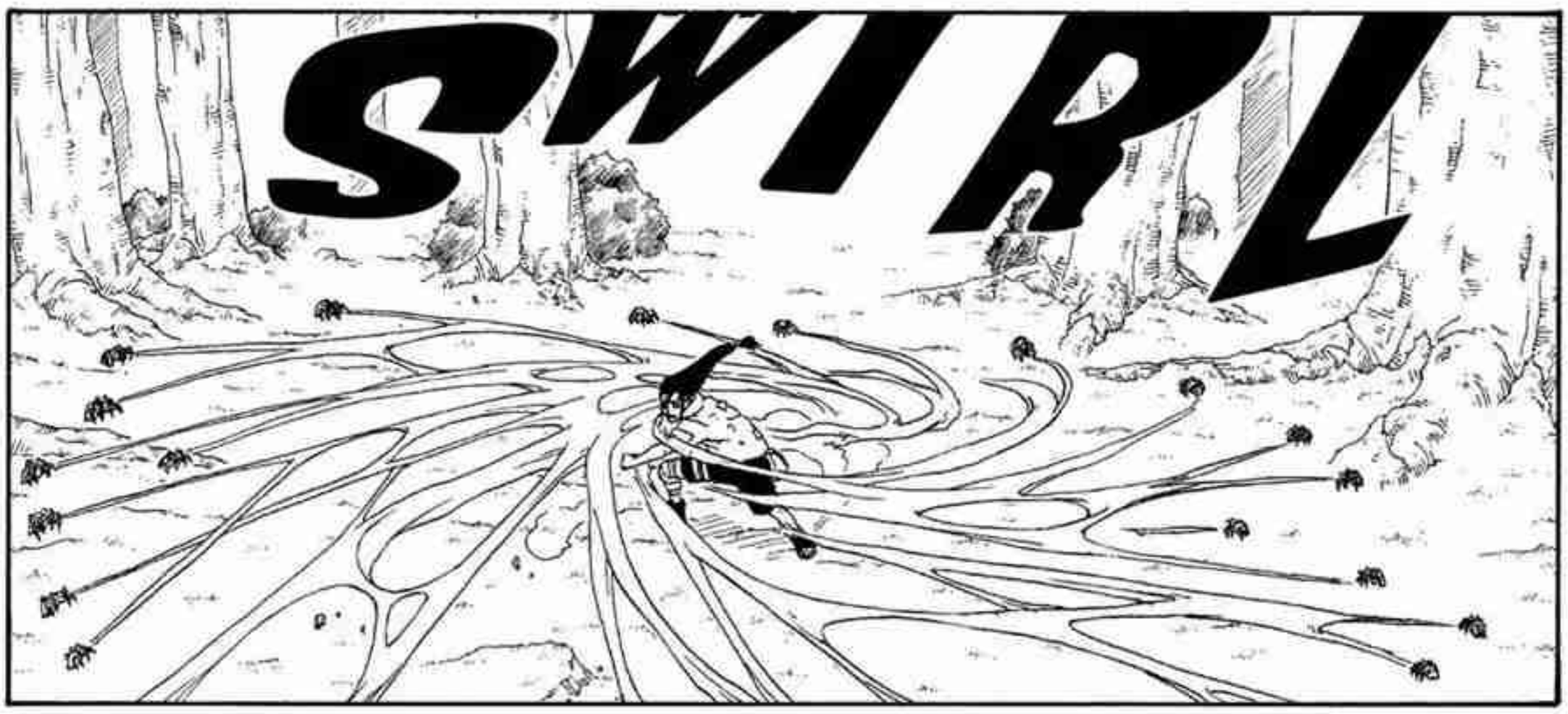
!!

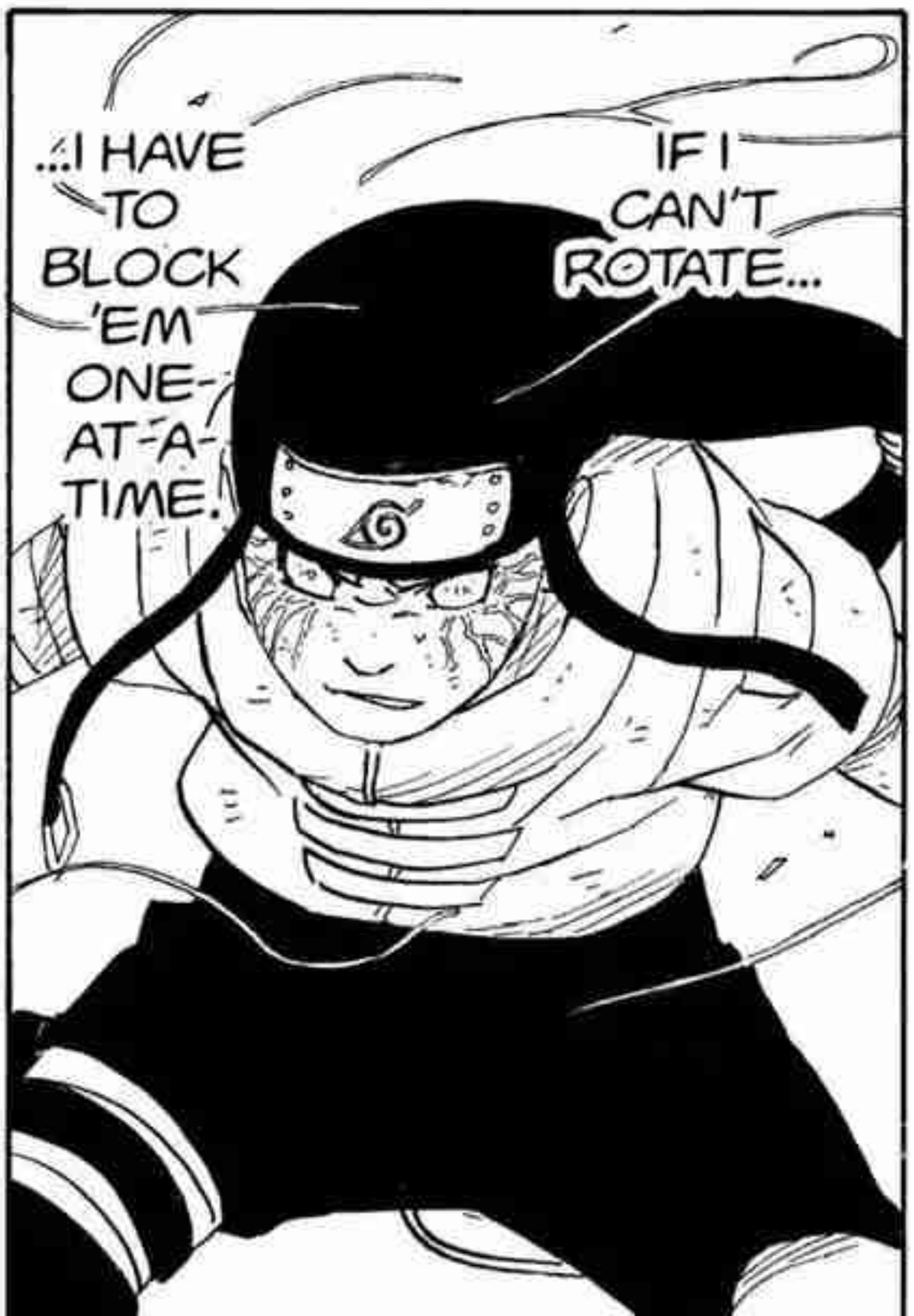
DIE!!


SWISH...

HE SLOWED MY DAGGER WITH CHAKRA AT THE LAST SECOND...
PSHAW ...!

THUCK

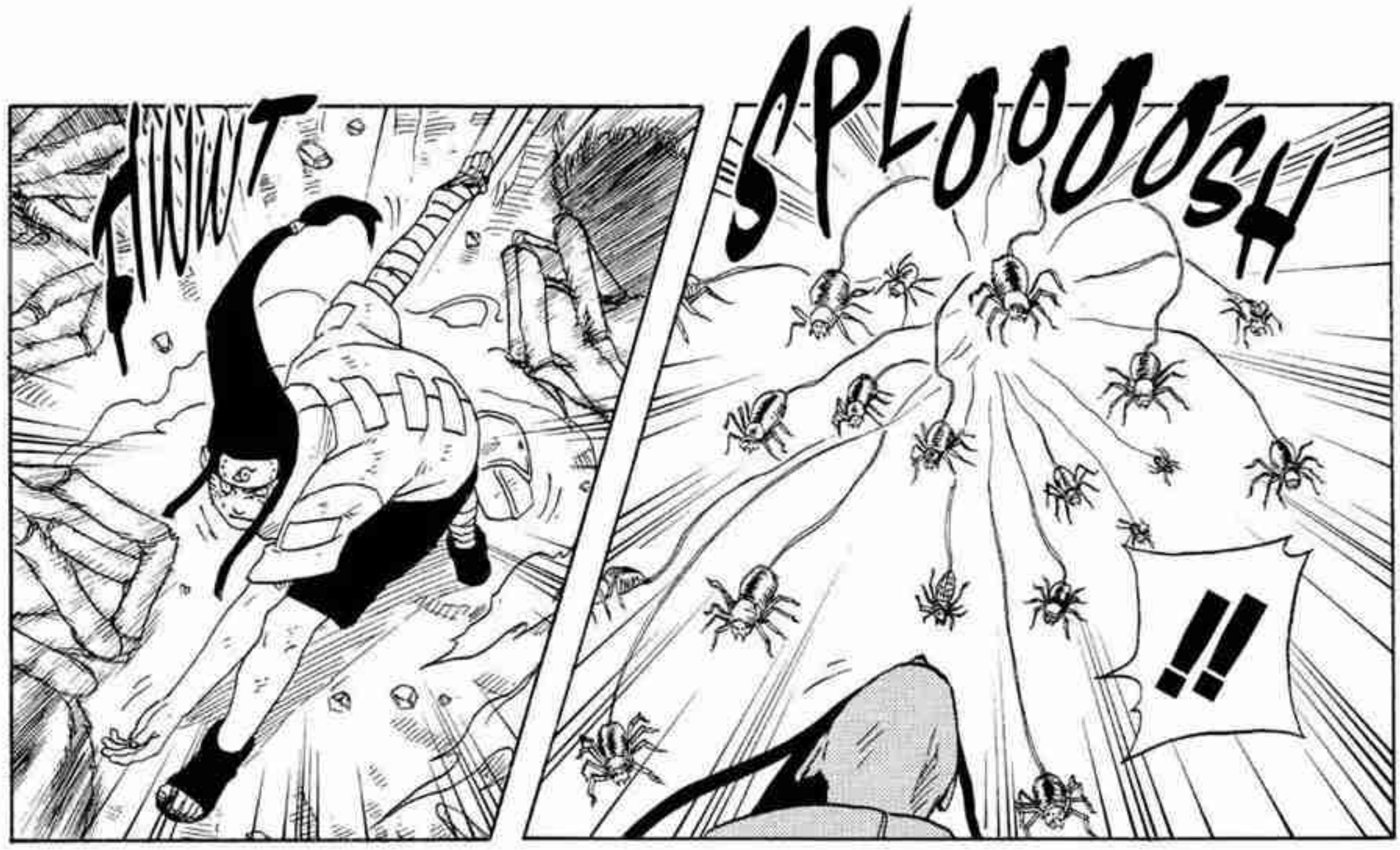

SWIRL


...I HAVE TO BLOCK 'EM ONE-AT-A-TIME.
IF I CAN'T ROTATE...

HUH...
WHAT? MY ROTATION GOT CAUGHT UP IN ALL THIS GUNK.
SNAP SNAP SNAP
ENOUGH OF THAT...

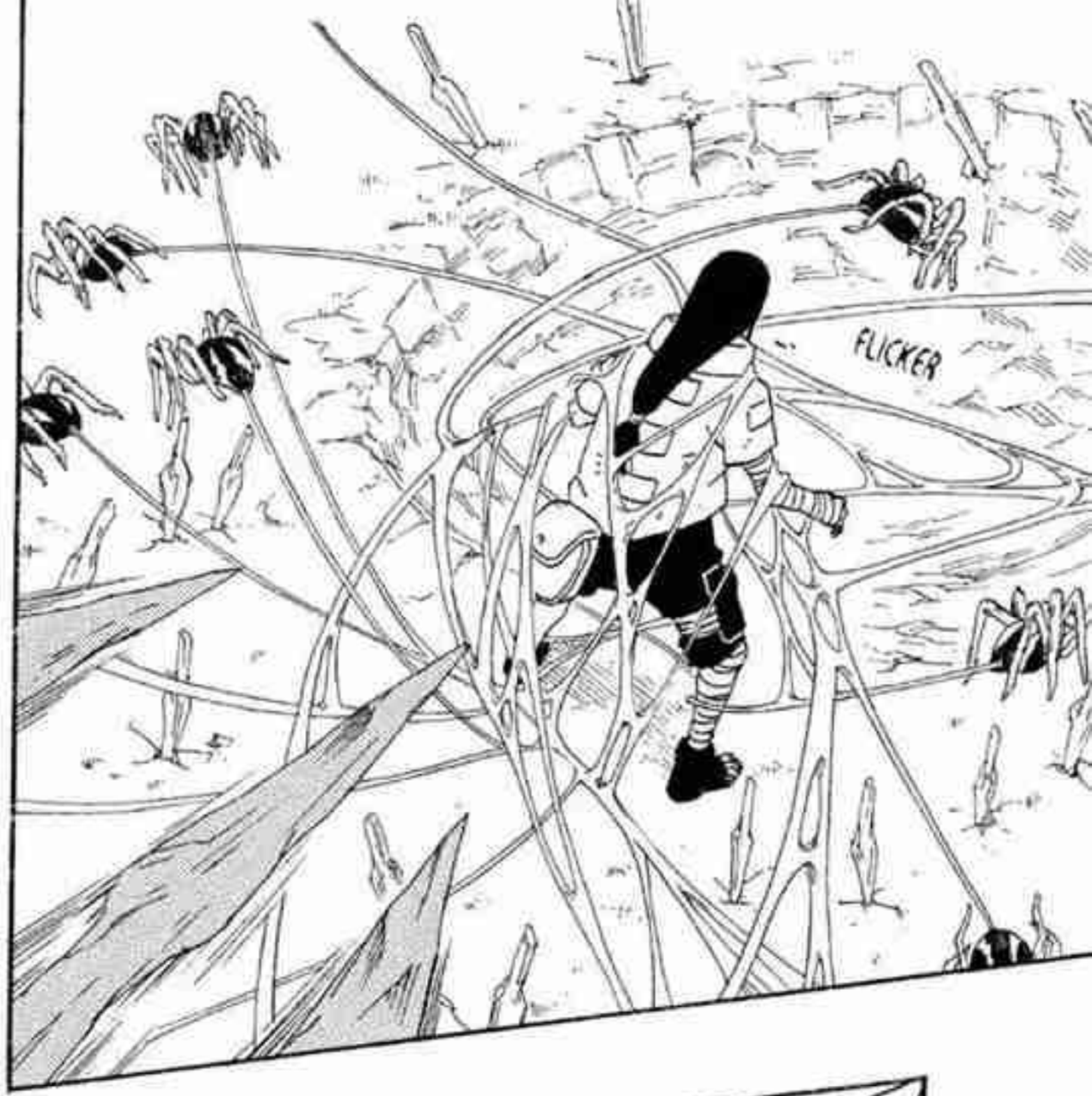
READ THIS WAY
...I CAN JUST SIT BACK AND ENJOY THE SHOW... HEH HEH HEH.
AND THEN...
SWISH
SO AS LONG AS I STAY OUT OF REACH, I'LL BE SAFE.
CLOSE COMBAT TAIJUTSU...
RURK
RURK
RURK
SHOOM
WHOOSH WHOOSH WHOOSH

THUD THUD THUD THUD THUD THUD THUD THUD
SIZ
HAH!
ZLE
WHOOSH
SCREECH
WHIP
CLAP

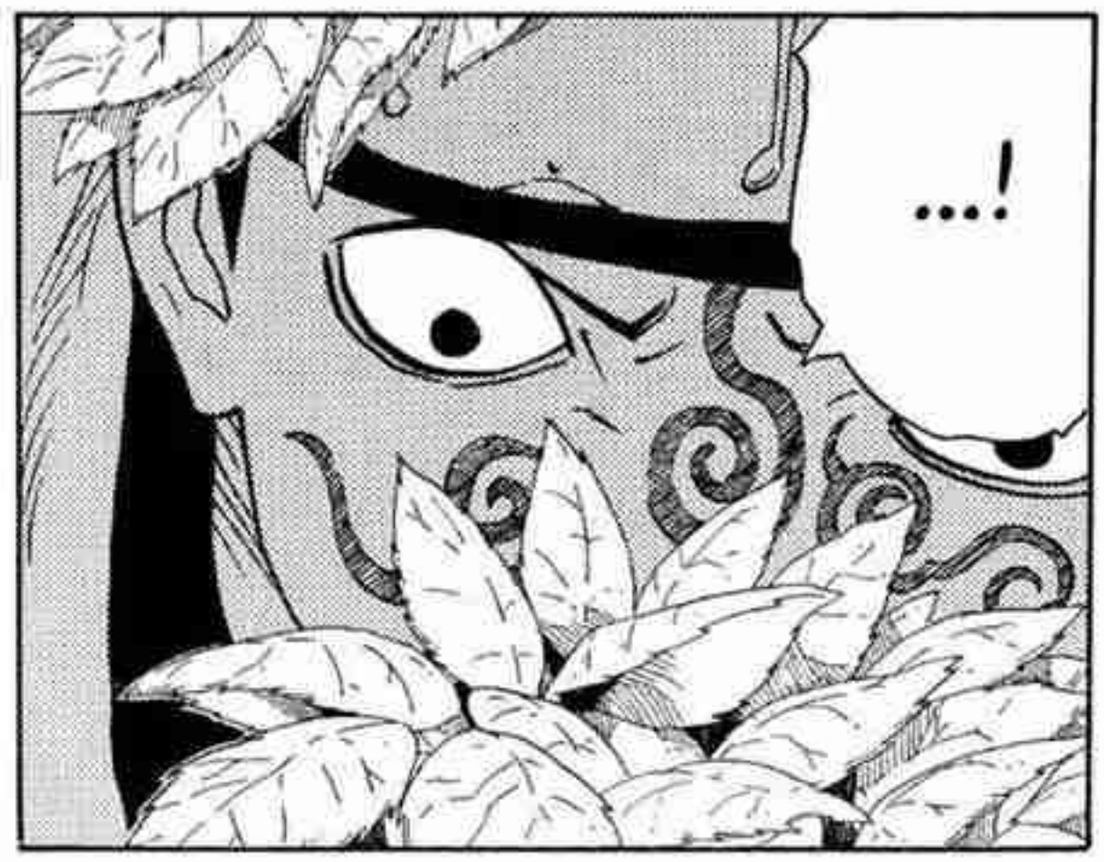

AWWOT
SPLOOOOSH
!!

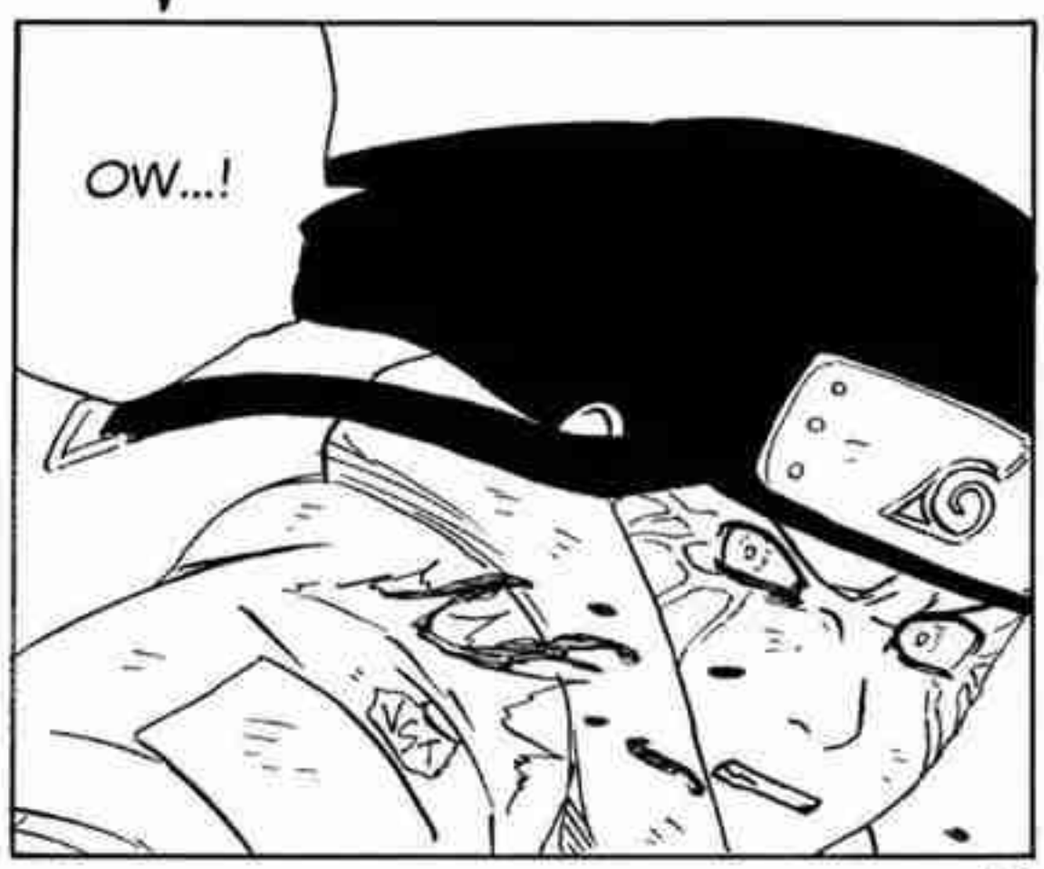
WHAPAPAPAPAPAPAPAPWHAP
8
TRIGRAMS
64 PALMS!!

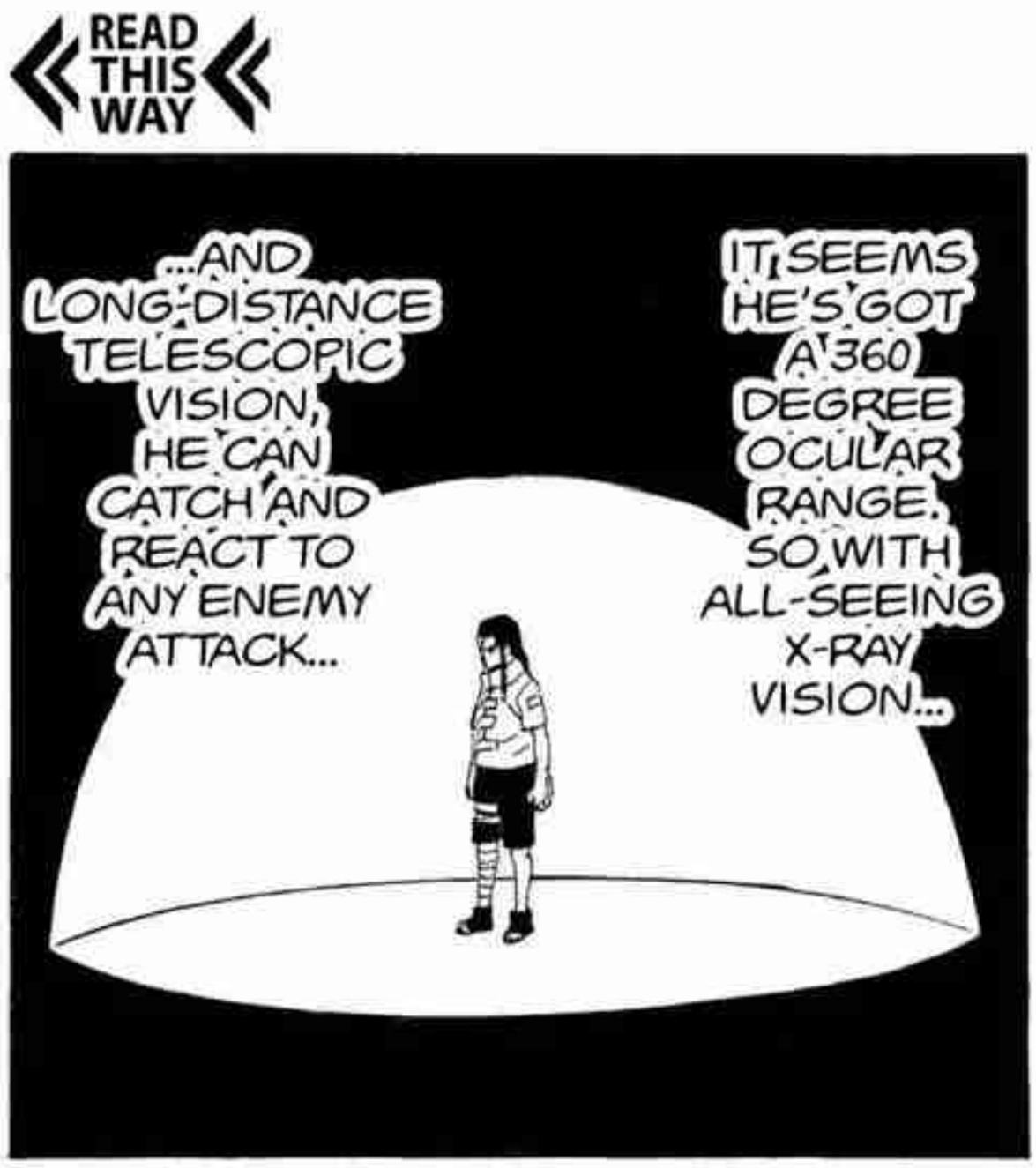
THUG
CAN'T ROTATE...
UGH!
SCREECH
SO MANY!!


FLICKER

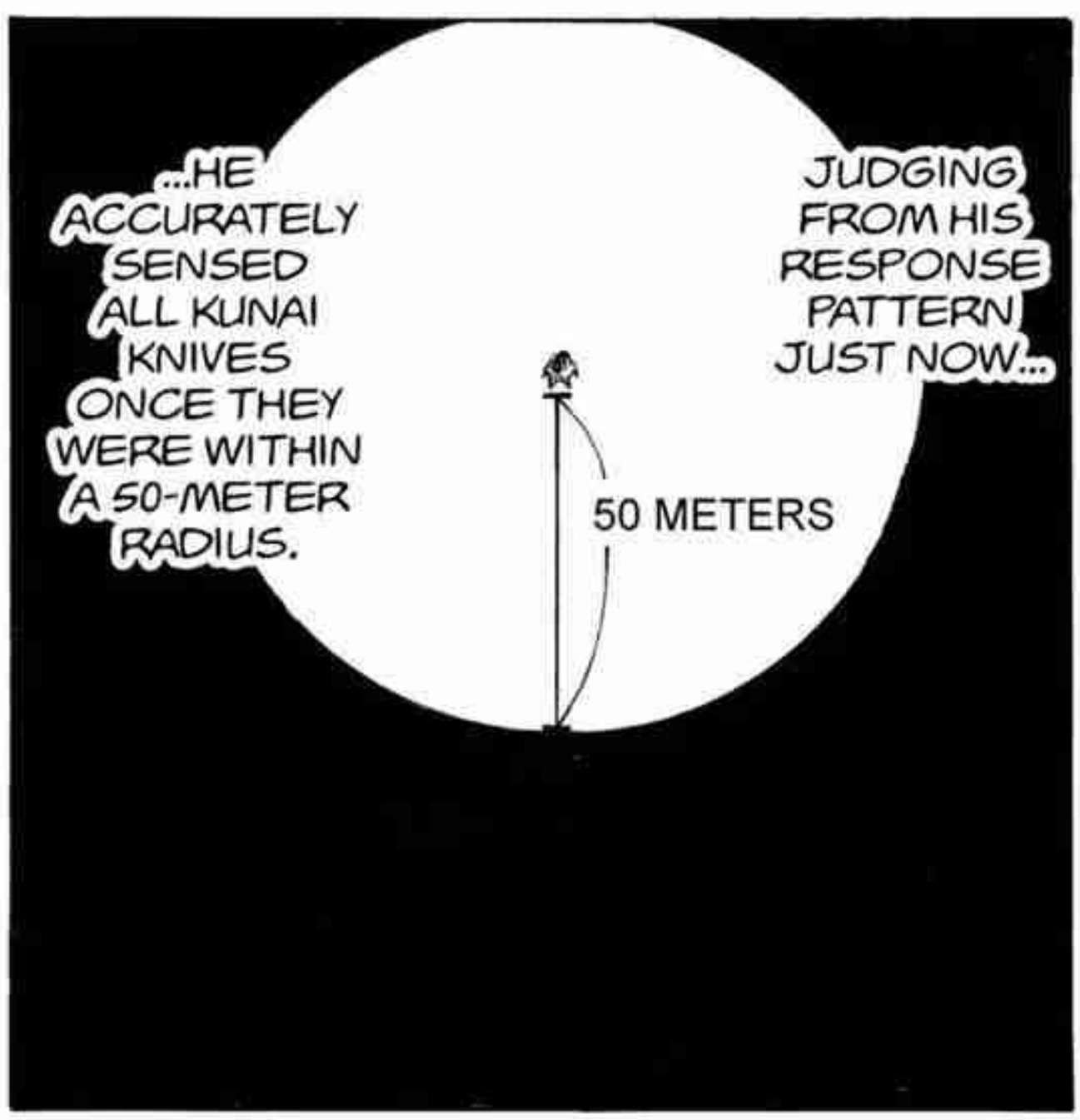
SWOOP
SNAP
AH!
SNAP
SNAP
THUD
SNAP
THUD
THUD

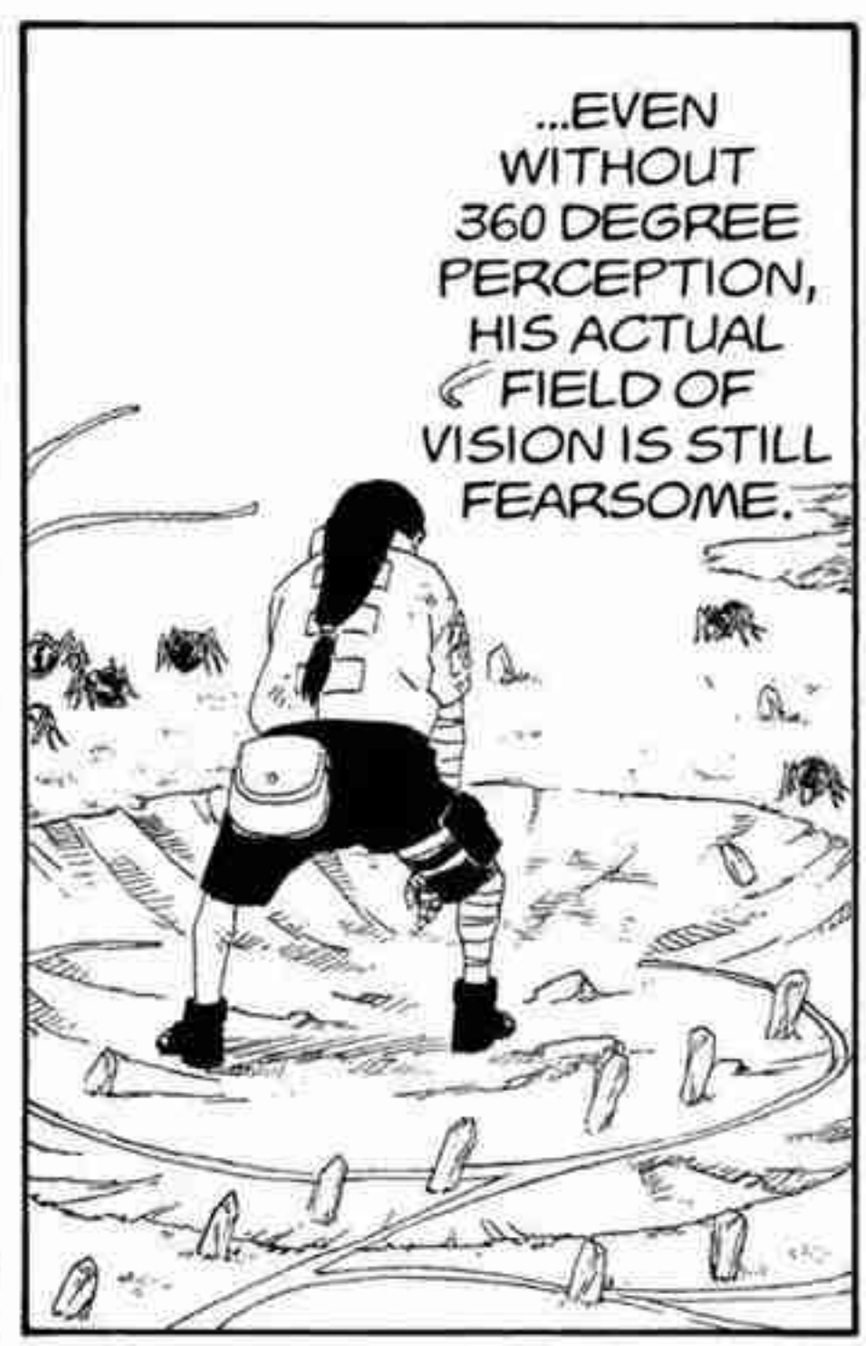

...!


OW...!


READ THIS WAY
...AND LONG-DISTANCE TELESCOPIC VISION, HE CAN CATCH AND REACT TO ANY ENEMY ATTACK...
IT SEEMS HE'S GOT A 360 DEGREE OCULAR RANGE. SO WITH ALL-SEEING X-RAY VISION...

...


...HE ACCURATELY SENSED ALL KUNAI KNIVES ONCE THEY WERE WITHIN A 50-METER RADIUS.
JUDGING FROM HIS RESPONSE PATTERN JUST NOW...
50 METERS
(54.7 YARDS)


...EVEN WITHOUT 360 DEGREE PERCEPTION, HIS ACTUAL FIELD OF VISION IS STILL FEARSOME.

...AND YET... SOMEHOW HE COULDN'T AVOID ALL OF THEM.

THAT LOSER...

YEESH... NEVER MIND THAT FATSO JIROBO, NOW WHAT'S KIDOMARU UP TO?!

SHOOM

SHOOM

...

...HE GOES INTO THAT STATE WAY TOO EASILY...

YEAH, BUT WHEN THAT FOOL GETS EXCITED...

YOU KNOW HE LIKES TO AMUSE HIMSELF...

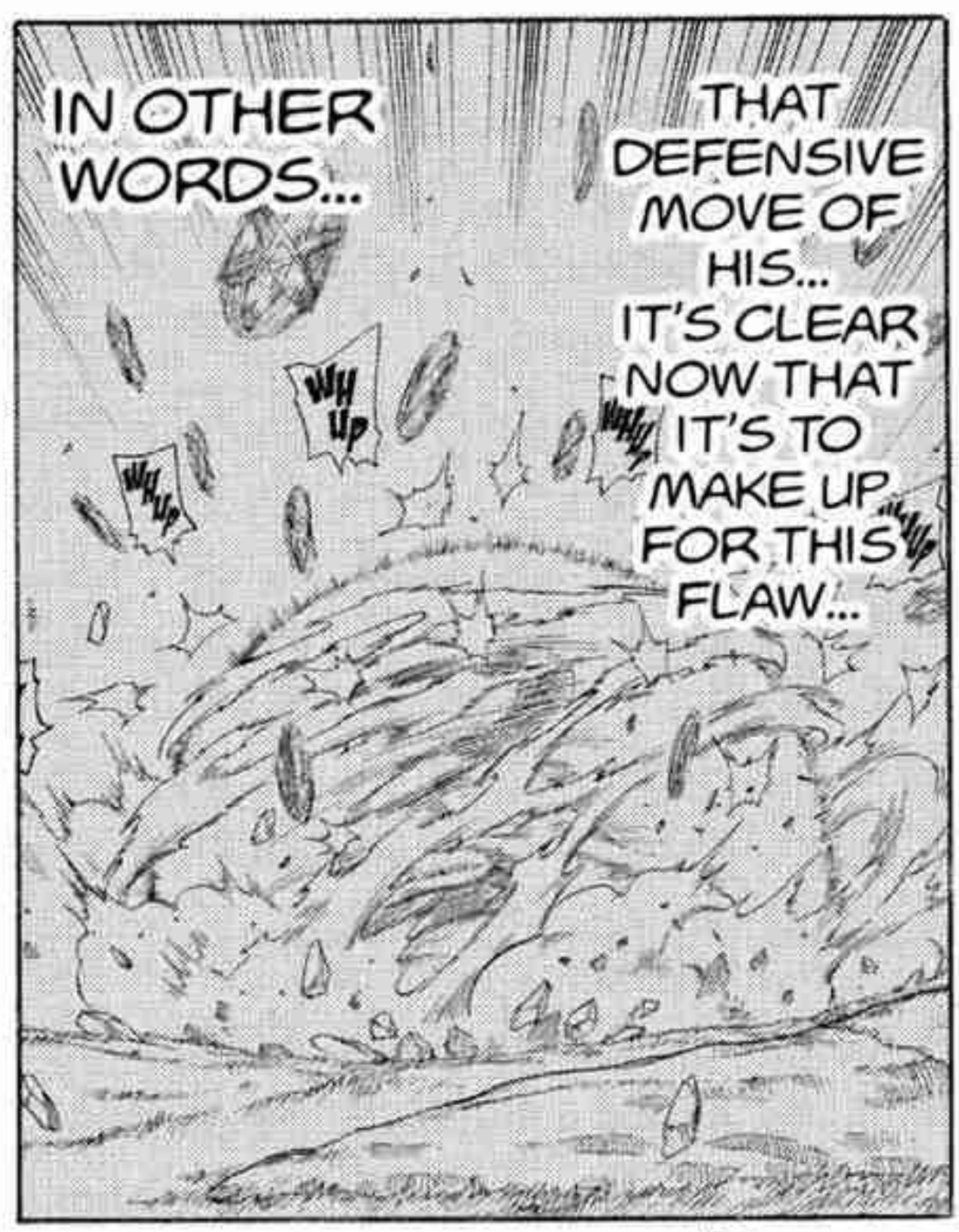
ONE OF THEM PROBABLY STRUCK HIS FANCY...

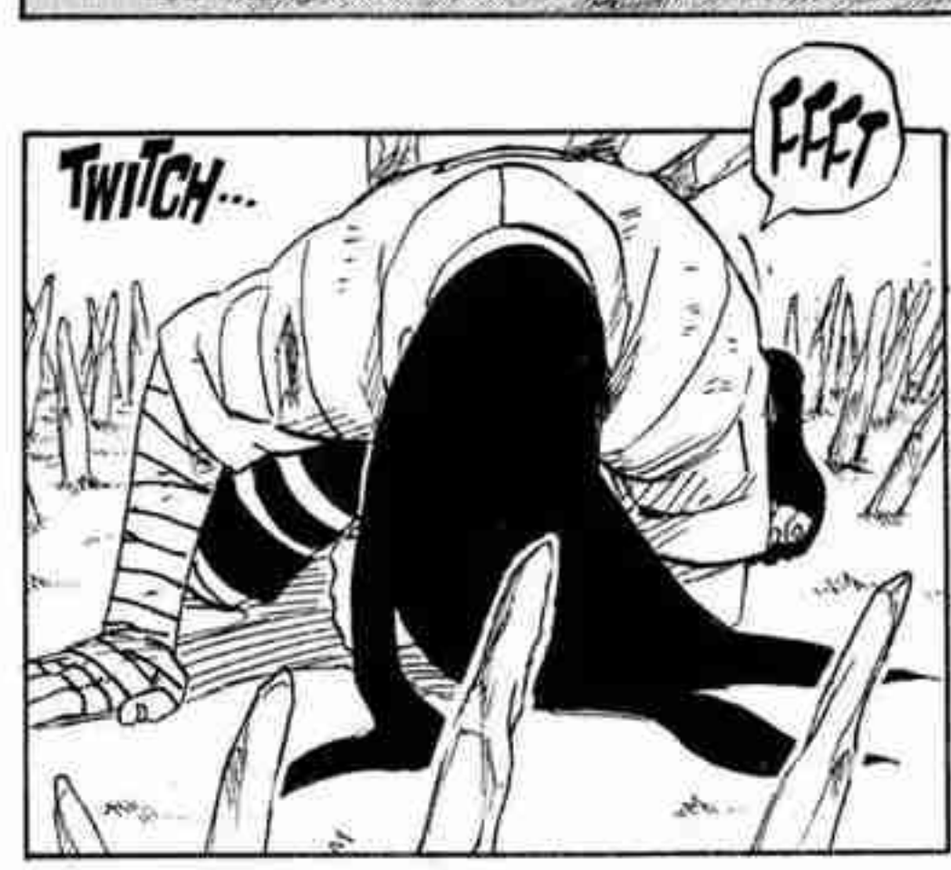
...HIS OPPONENT'LL BE DEAD IN NO TIME.

WELL... AT LEAST IF HE HITS SECOND STATE...

READ THIS WAY
HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF
THEY'RE EVEN MORE THIS NEXT ROUND... WHATCHA GONNA DO?
SHOOSH
HOP
NOW... I'M FINISHED SETTING UP...
WHOOOSH

WHAM WHAM WHAM WHAM WHAM






...HIS OCULAR NINJUTSU ISN'T PERFECT...!

HUF

HUF

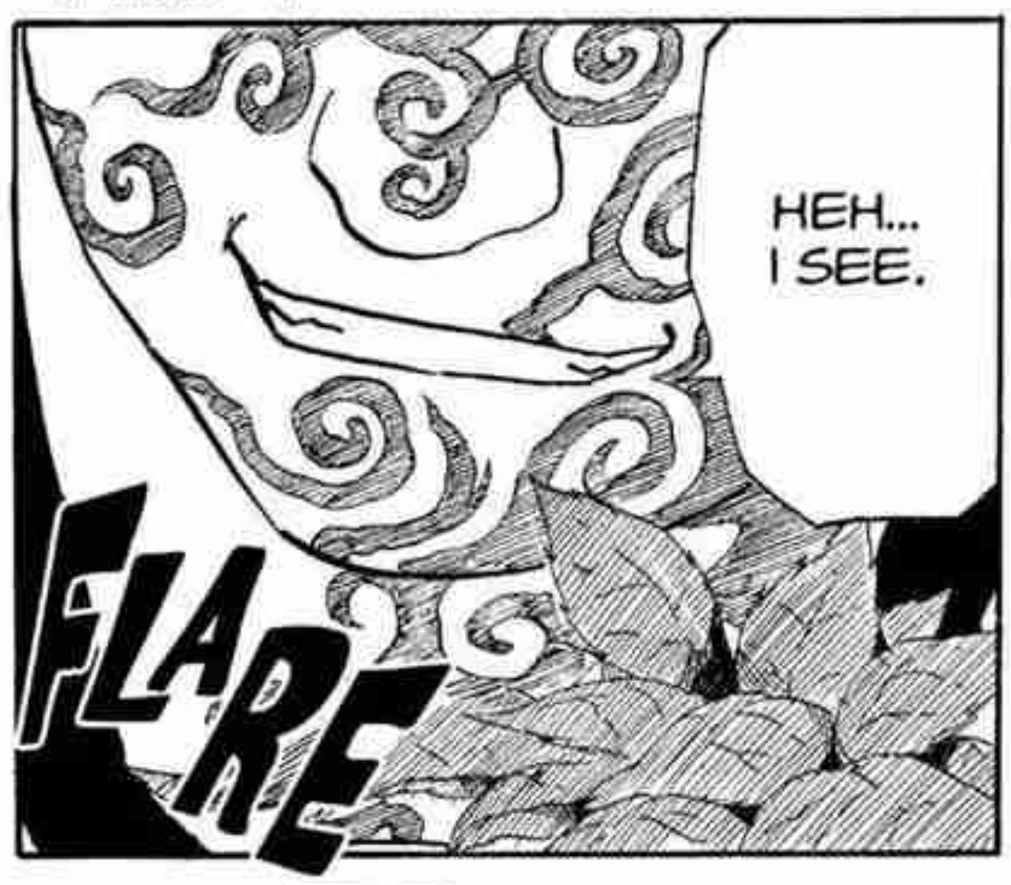
HUF

HUF

READ THIS WAY
SWOOP
THIS IS IT!
FOW
GENTLE FIST!!
!
BOOM
BLOP
BLOP
BLOP
!!

!!
BOOF
SHAAAAAAAA
TWITCH...

...STILL...!
...!


HEH... I SEE.
FLARE

FWOOSH
HE JUST AVOIDED FATAL BLOWS... AND SINCE THEY'RE RELEASED FROM OVER 50 METERS AWAY, THEY DON'T RETAIN ENOUGH FORCE...

...HE DID GIVE ME MY MONEY'S WORTH.
HUF
HUF
WELL...

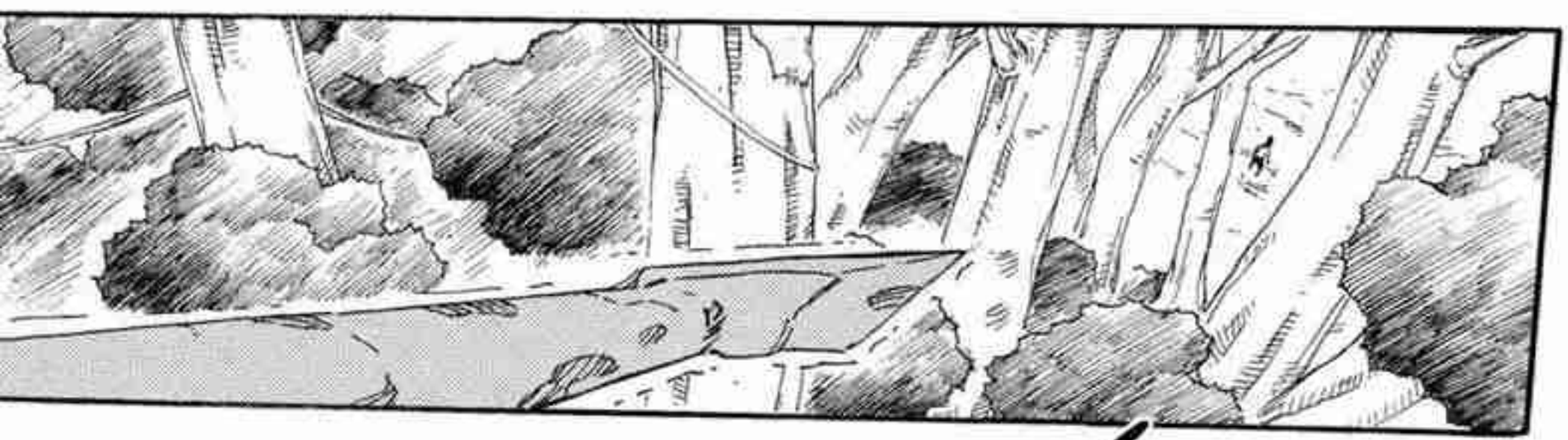
PLINK...
FAP
PLINK...
GLOOP
SLIP
SO IN THANKS...

ヲ
ヲ
ヲ
ヲヲ…

DESTRUCTIVE POWER: MAXIMUM!

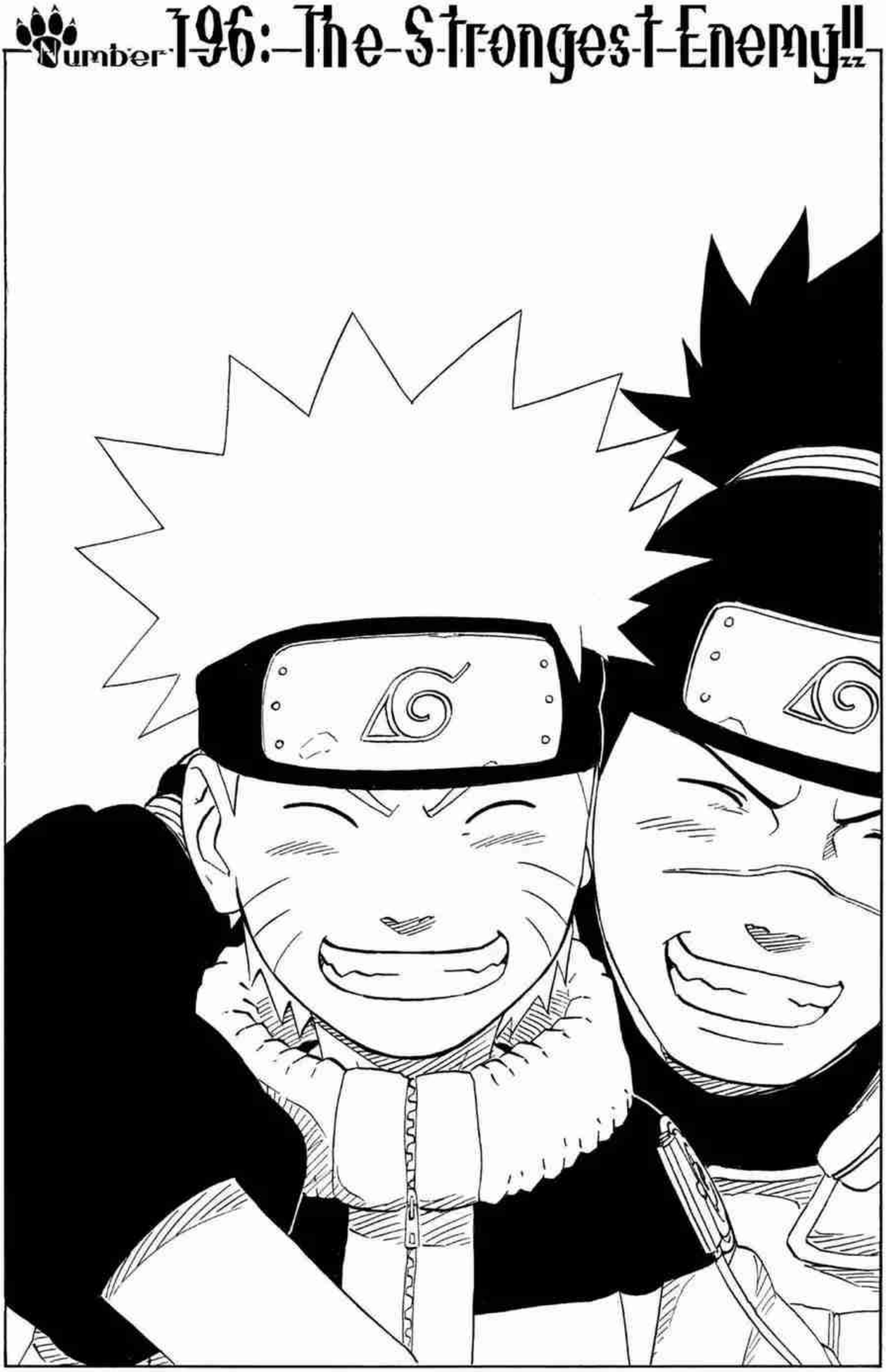
GRRR

STRIKING ACCURACY: 100%.



NARUTO
TM

# Number 196: The Strongest Enemy!!



SWI

SH

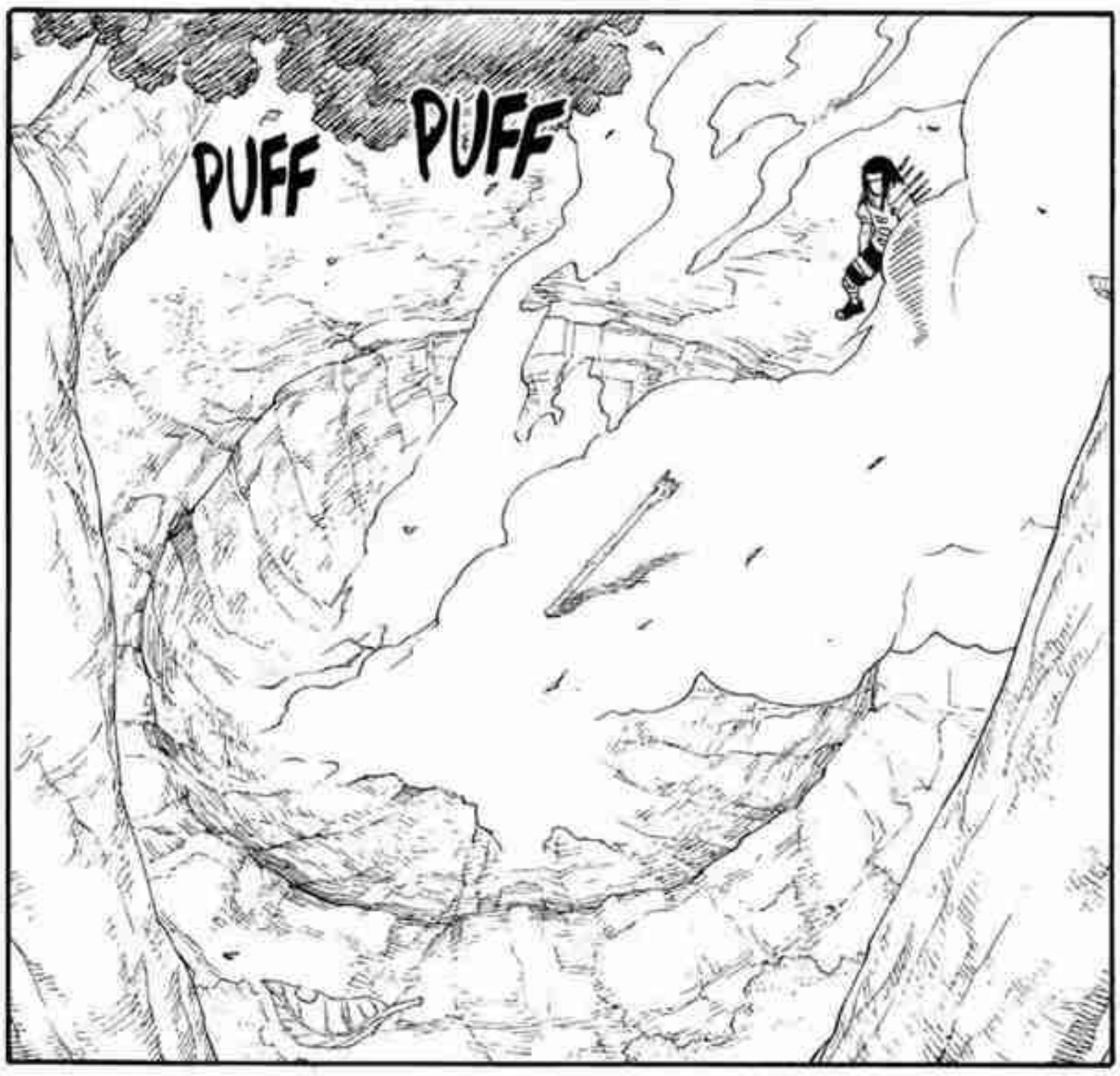
OOOO SCH

KA B

OOM

GAME OVER...!

READ
THIS
WAY


PUFF
PUFF

PUFF
PUFF

BUT... I WAS ABLE TO AVOID IT JUST ENOUGH.
HUF
URGH
...THAT WAS CLOSE... WAY TOO CLOSE.

!
WHA...?!

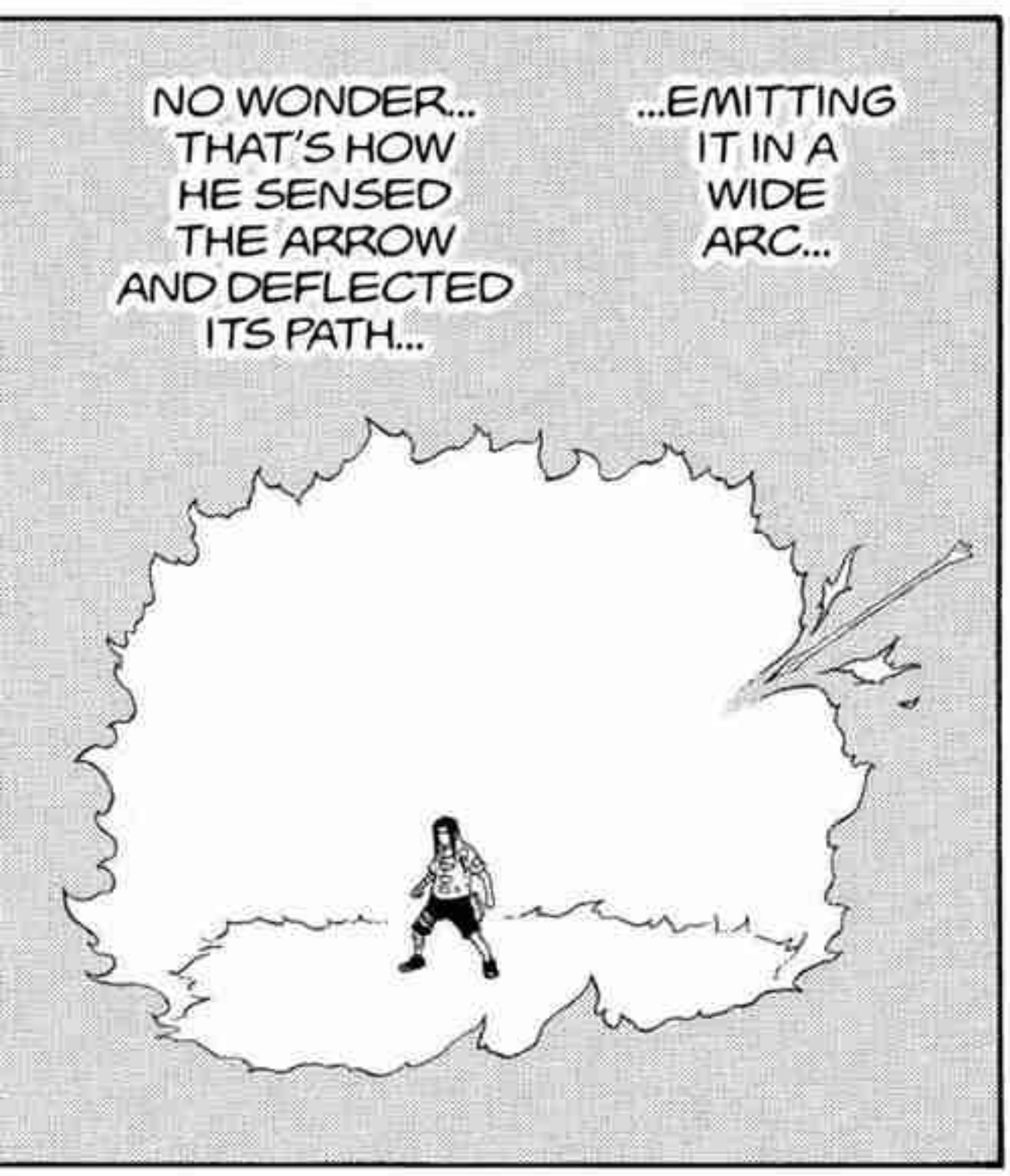
WHAT'S GOING ON? HOW DID HE...?!
...!

...HE'S CAUGHT ON TO THE SECRET OF THE BYAKUGAN.
URGH
JUST... AS I THOUGHT...
URGH

ZIZZLE...
HOW DID I MISS BY 15 CENTIMETERS?!
DRIP
DRIP
GRR
!!

READ THIS WAY
HE'S... BEEN SHIELDING HIMSELF WITH CHAKRA...!
AAH... IT'S CHAKRA!

CHUNK
UGH...

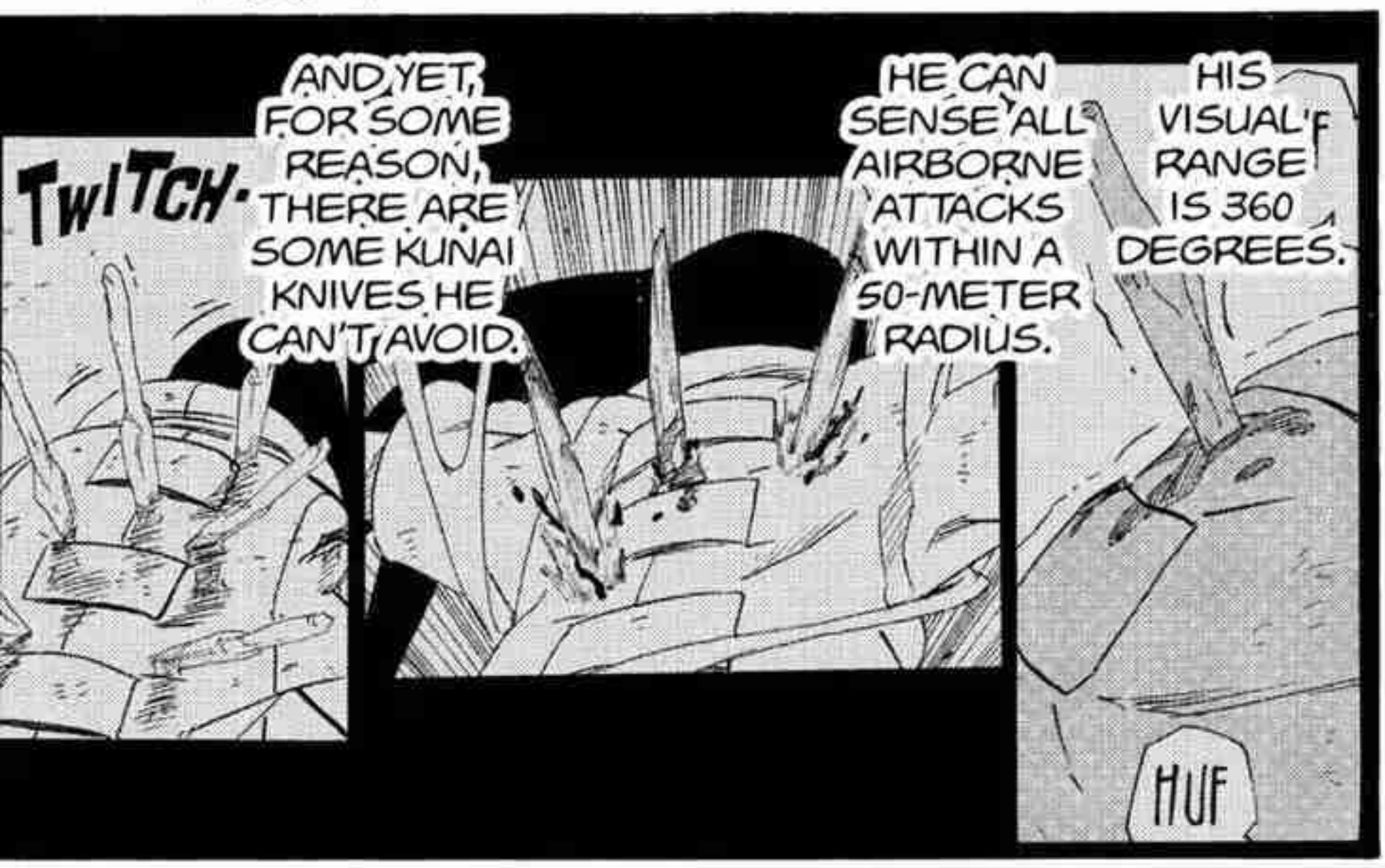

NO WONDER... THAT'S HOW HE SENSED THE ARROW AND DEFLECTED ITS PATH...
...EMITTING IT IN A WIDE ARC...

FOR IF I'M RIGHT... NO MISTAKE...
BUT HE HAD TO DODGE MY ATTACKS...

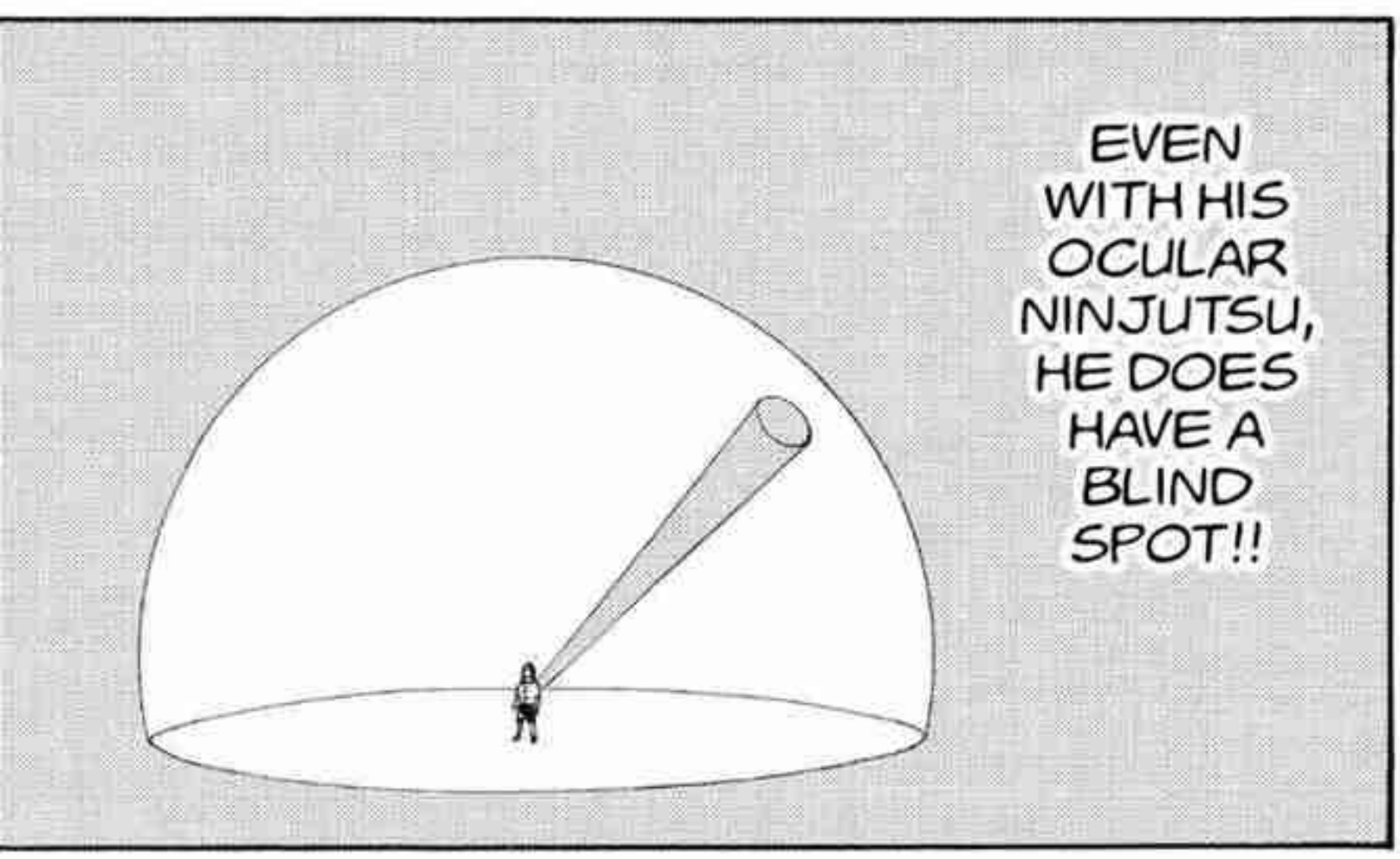
...HEH HEH... HE'S GOTTA BE HURTIN' FROM EXPENDING THAT MUCH CHAKRA...

...
SNEER

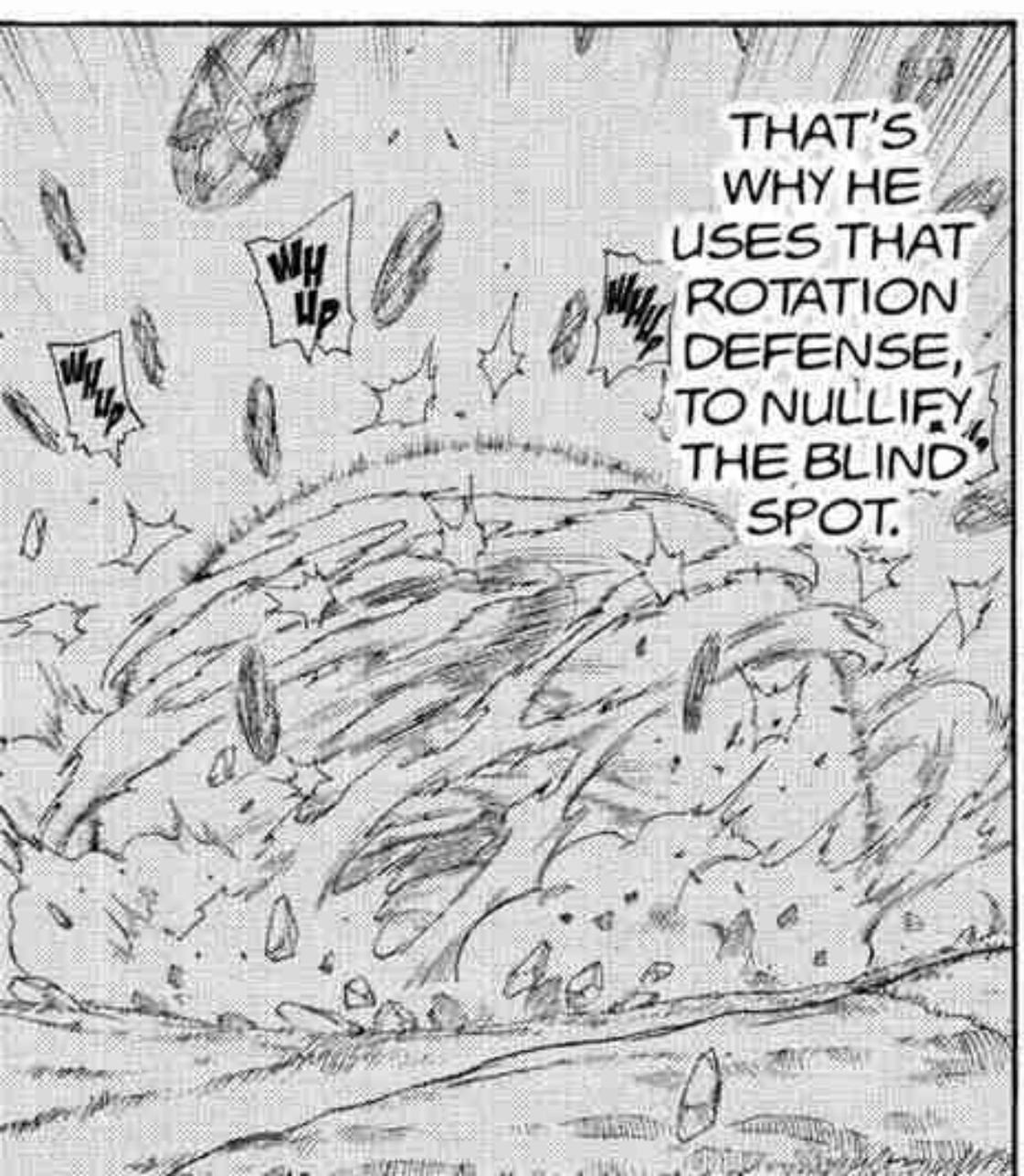
...HE DIDN'T SEE THAT ARROW WITH HIS EYES!!

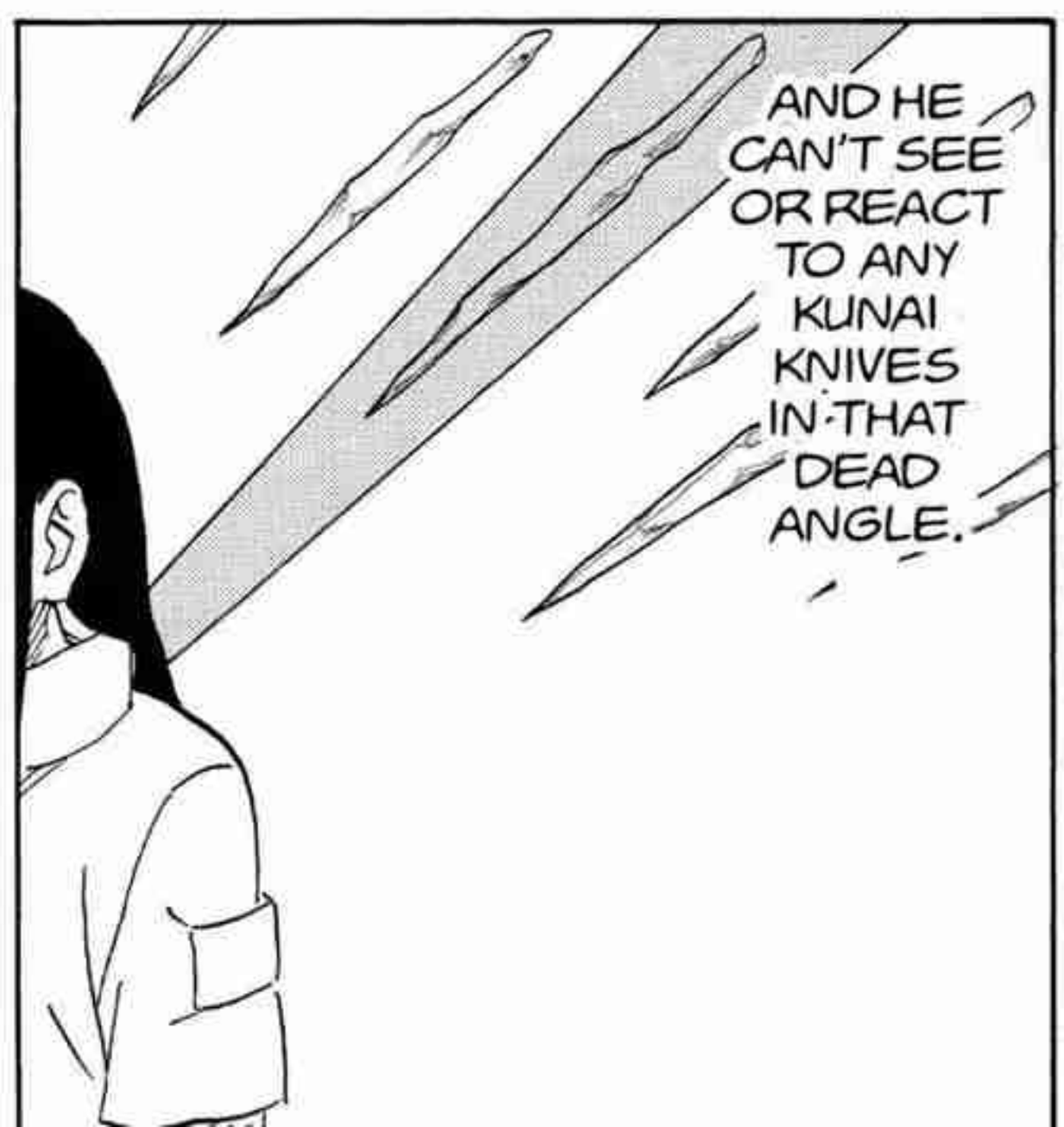

TWITCH-
AND YET, FOR SOME REASON, THERE ARE SOME KUNAI KNIVES HE CAN'T AVOID.
HE CAN SENSE ALL AIRBORNE ATTACKS WITHIN A 50-METER RADIUS.
HIS VISUAL RANGE IS 360 DEGREES.
HUF

...
HUMPH...

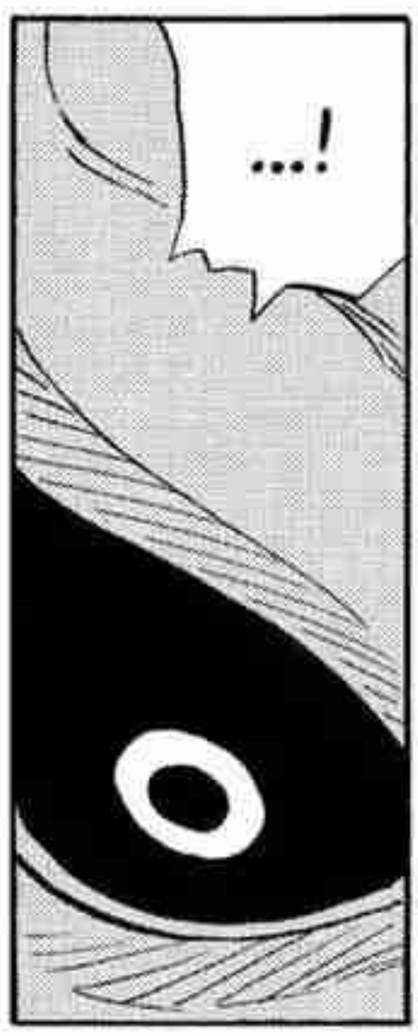

EVEN WITH HIS OCULAR NINJUTSU, HE DOES HAVE A BLIND SPOT!!

BECAUSE HE CAN'T SEE THEM!
SO WHY CAN'T HE DODGE THEM?

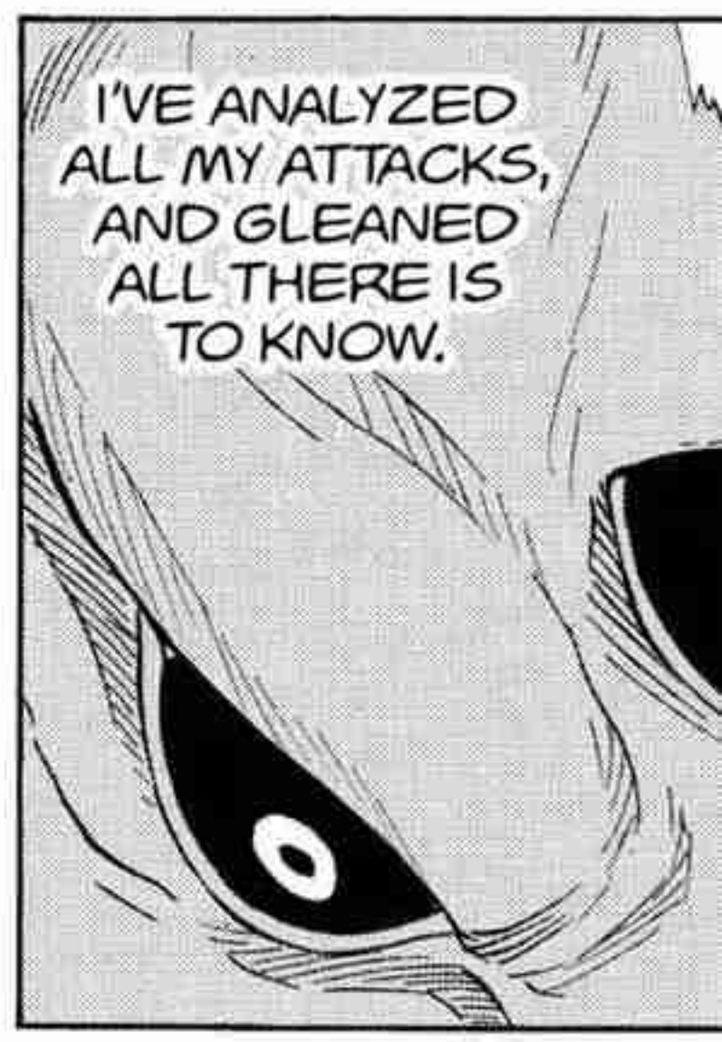

WHUP
WHUP
WHUP
THAT'S WHY HE USES THAT ROTATION DEFENSE, TO NULLIFY THE BLIND SPOT.


AND HE CAN'T SEE OR REACT TO ANY KUNAI KNIVES IN THAT DEAD ANGLE.

CREAK...


...!

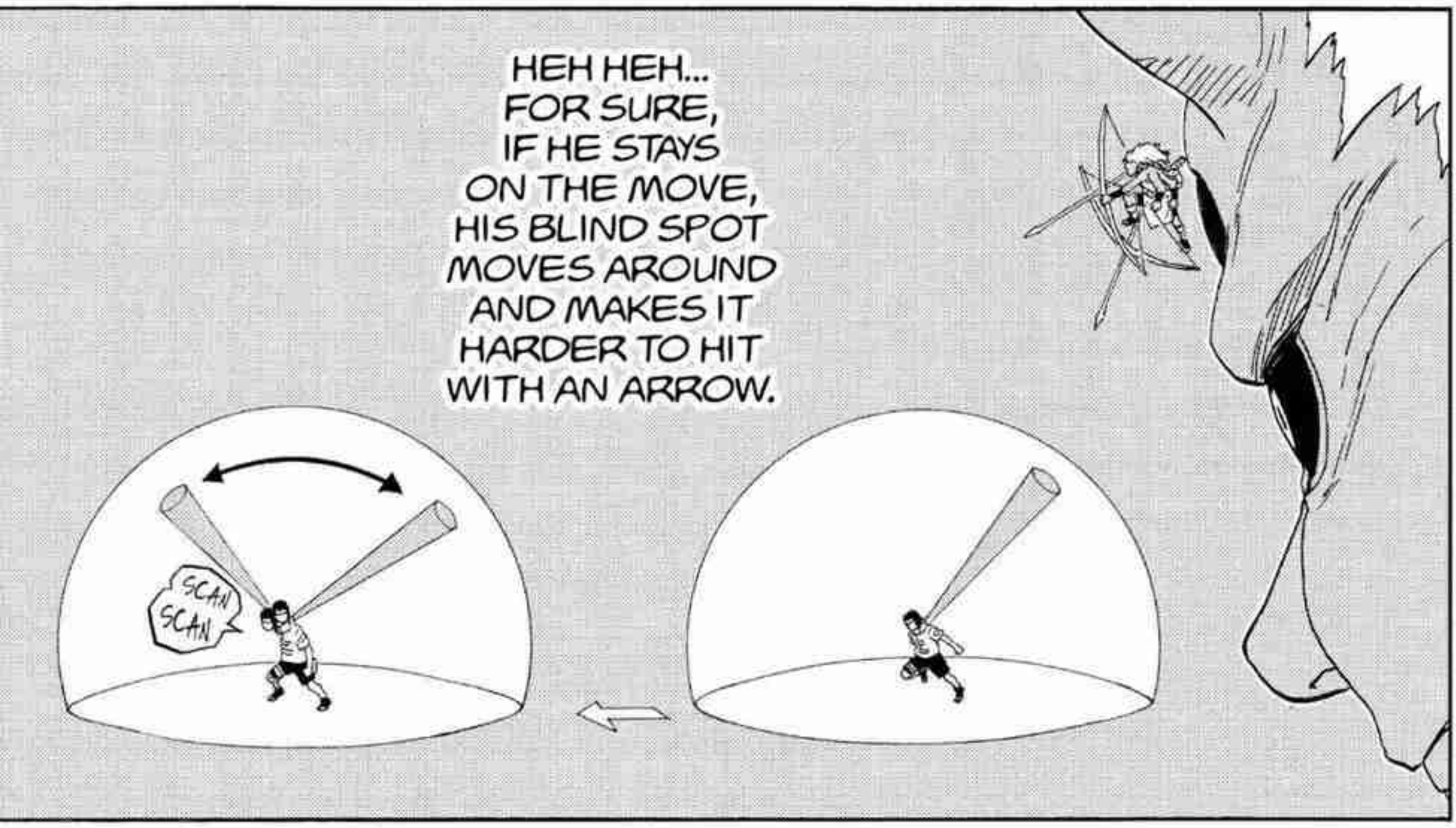
HIS DEAD ANGLE STARTS AT THE LEVEL OF HIS FIRST THORACIC VERTEBRA... AND SPREADS OUTWARD AS A NARROW CONE!!


I'VE ANALYZED ALL MY ATTACKS, AND GLEANED ALL THERE IS TO KNOW.

FLIP FLIP
UGH...

...

FLOP


HEH HEH... FOR SURE, IF HE STAYS ON THE MOVE, HIS BLIND SPOT MOVES AROUND AND MAKES IT HARDER TO HIT WITH AN ARROW.
SCAN SCAN

GLOOP!!!
PLINK

BUT MY FRIEND... THAT'S NOT ENOUGH TO STOP ME!!
GLOOP!!!
PLINK

CREAK
THE GENTLE FIST IS USELESS IF YOU'RE NOT RIGHT NEXT TO YOUR OPPONENT.
AND I DON'T THINK YOU'RE IN ANY SHAPE TO GET NEAR ME NOW.

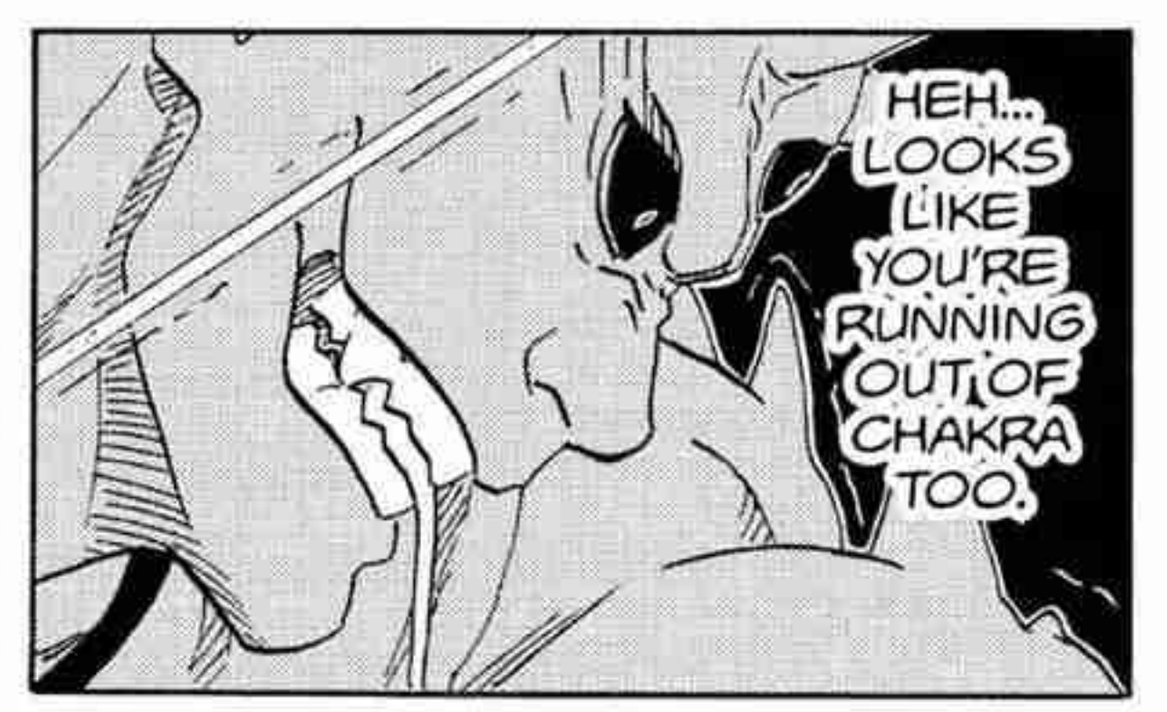
KRIK
BUT EITHER WAY, YOU'RE GONNA DIE!
SO ALL YOU CAN DO... IS RUN.

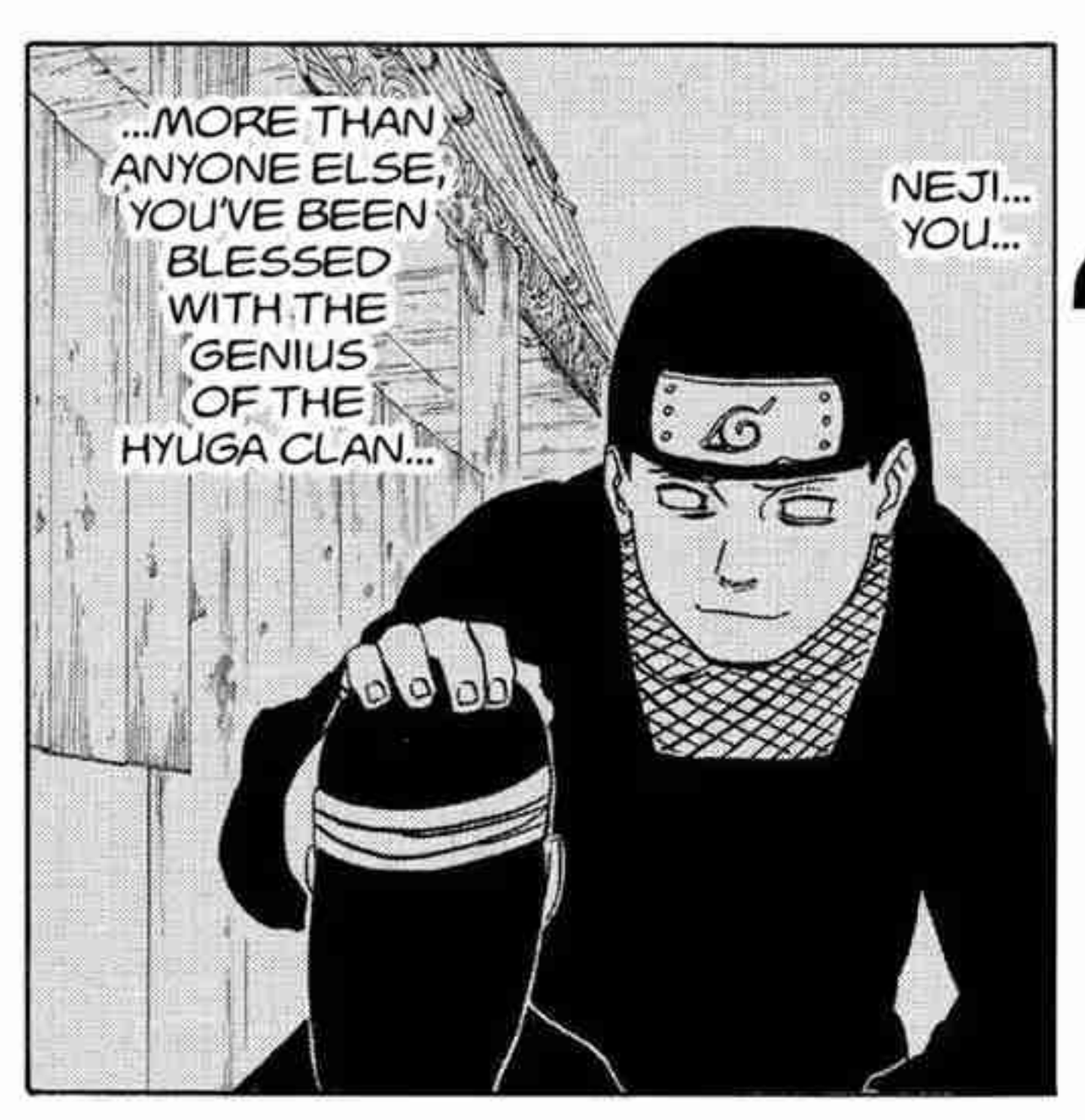
HACK
SPURT
TROT

KRIK...
KRIK...

READ THIS WAY
MINOR CHARACTERS IN A SIMPLE GAME ARE FATED TO BE KNOCKED OUT QUICKLY!
UNH
HUF

HUF
CRUNCH
UNGH
UGH!

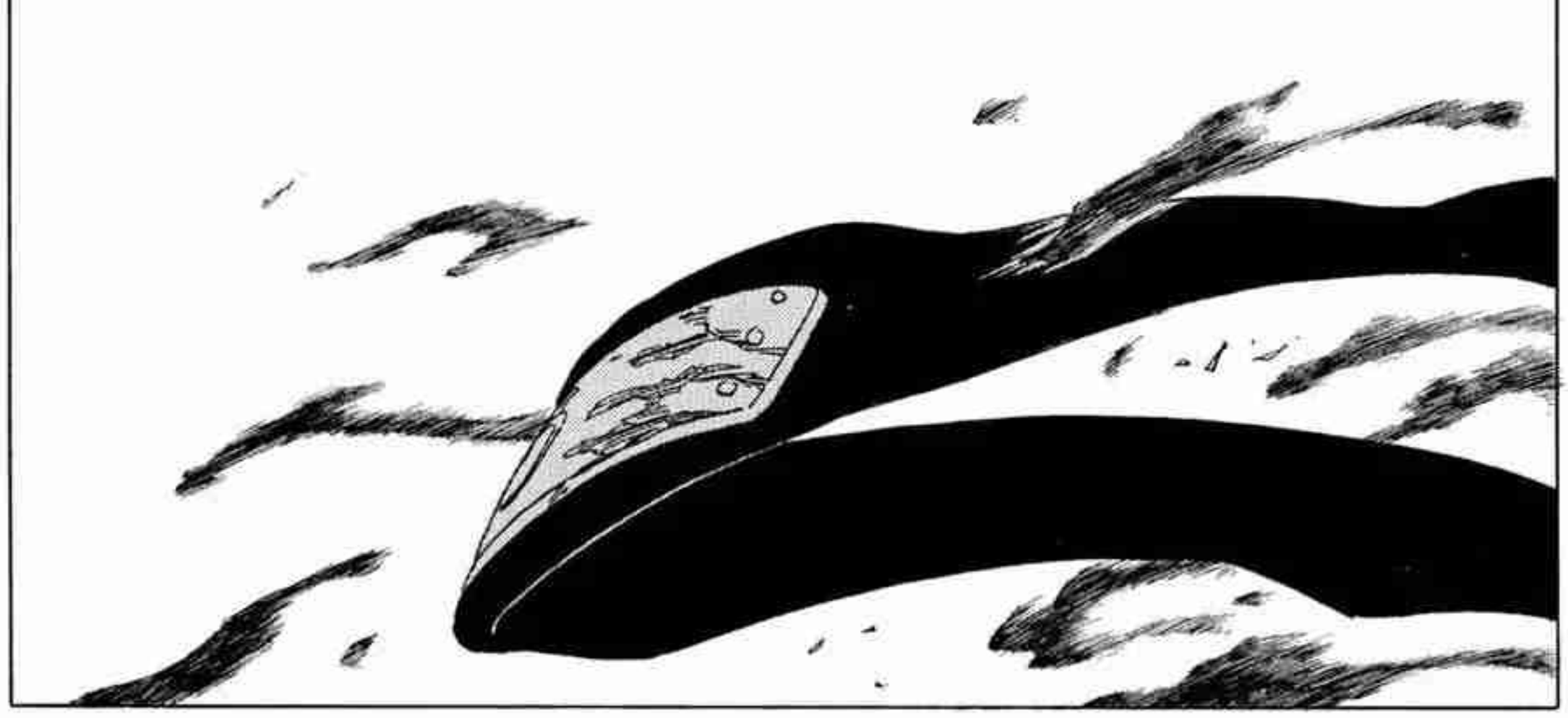

HEH... LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE RUNNING OUT OF CHAKRA TOO.

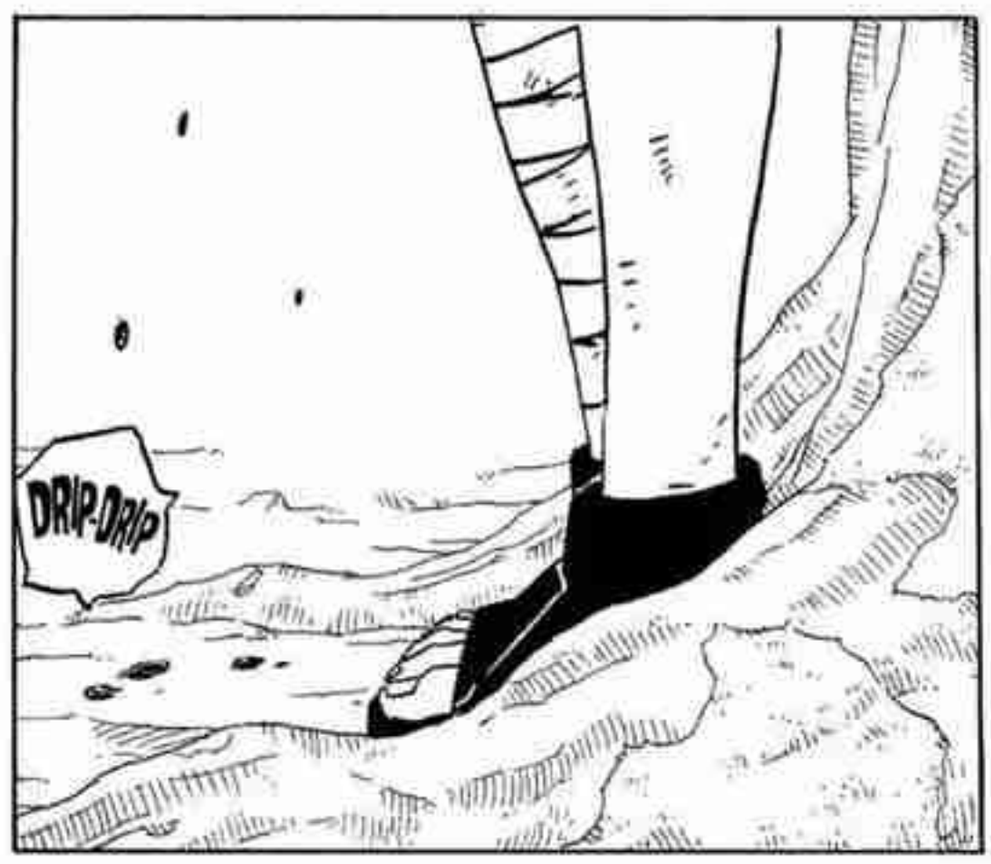

...MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE, YOU'VE BEEN BLESSED WITH THE GENIUS OF THE HYUGA CLAN...
NEJI... YOU...

TWA NG

SWISH

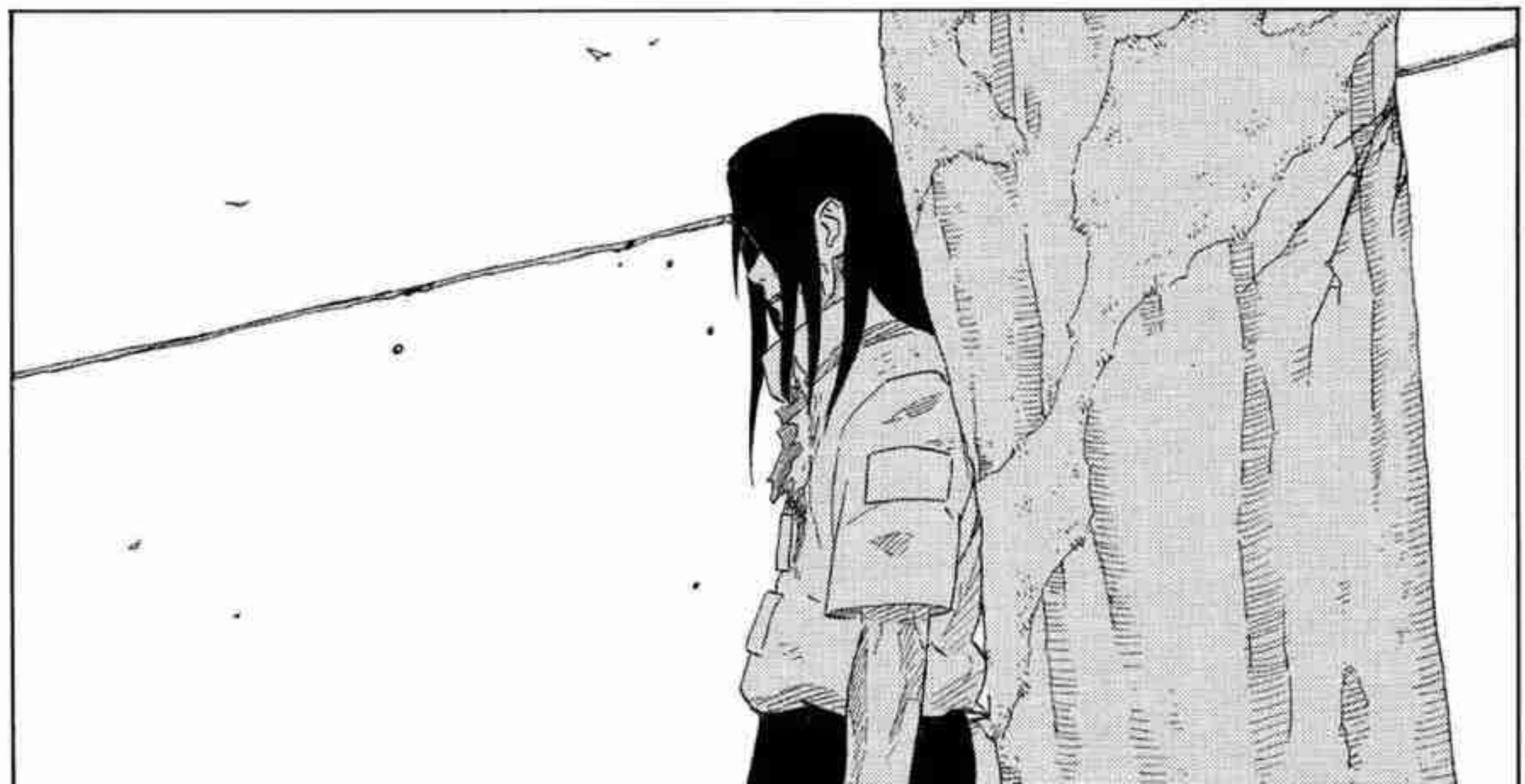
VHS
HERE
VHS
SWEEPER



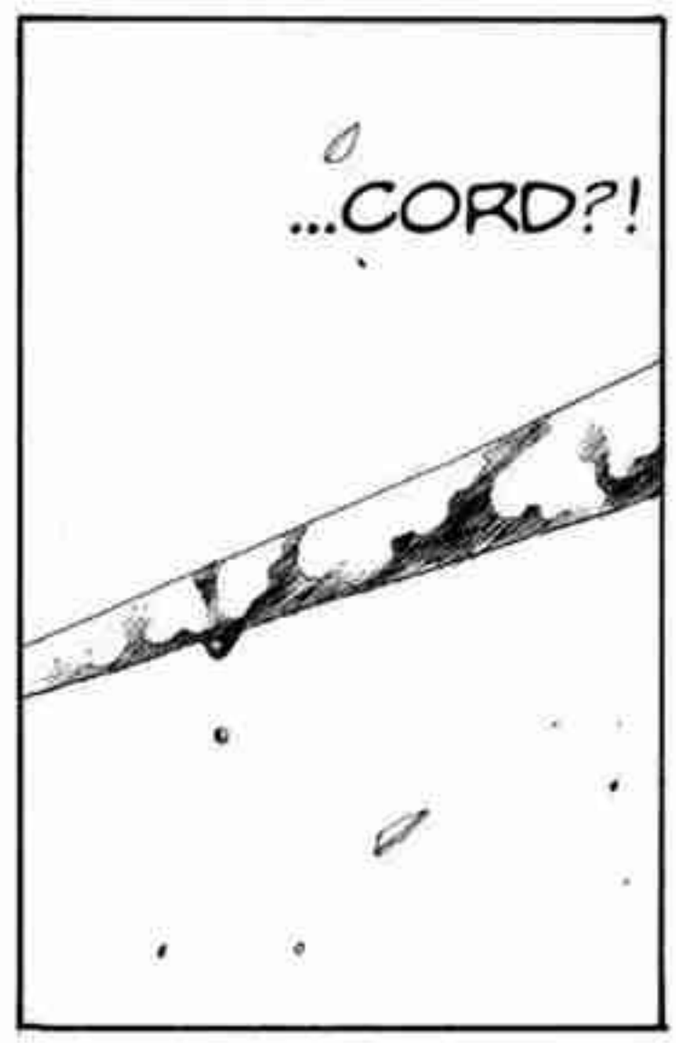

DRIP-DRIP

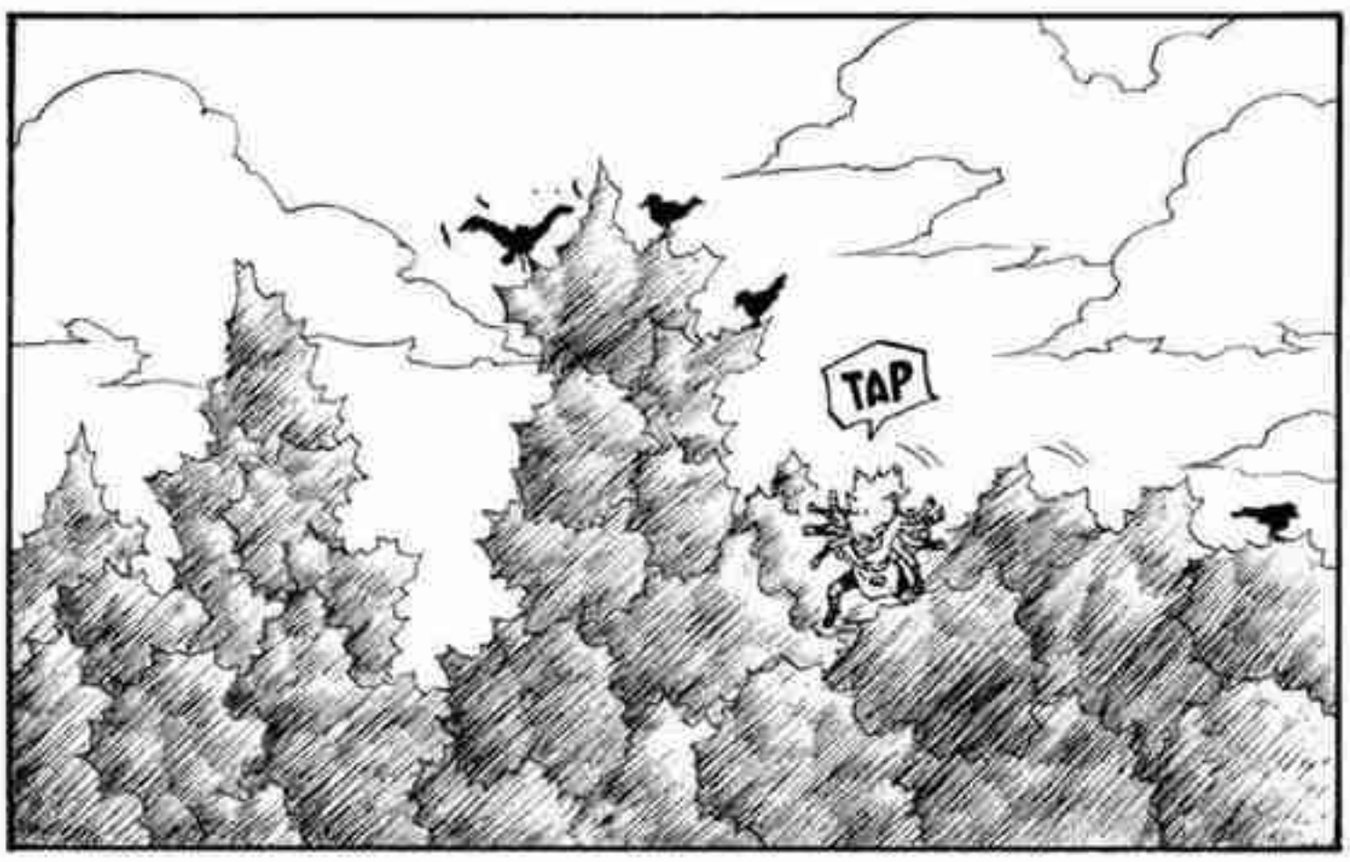
CLATTER...

DRIP



(THE SYMBOL PICTURED ABOVE, CALLED A MANJI, IS TRADITIONAL IN BUDDHIST IMAGERY -ED.)



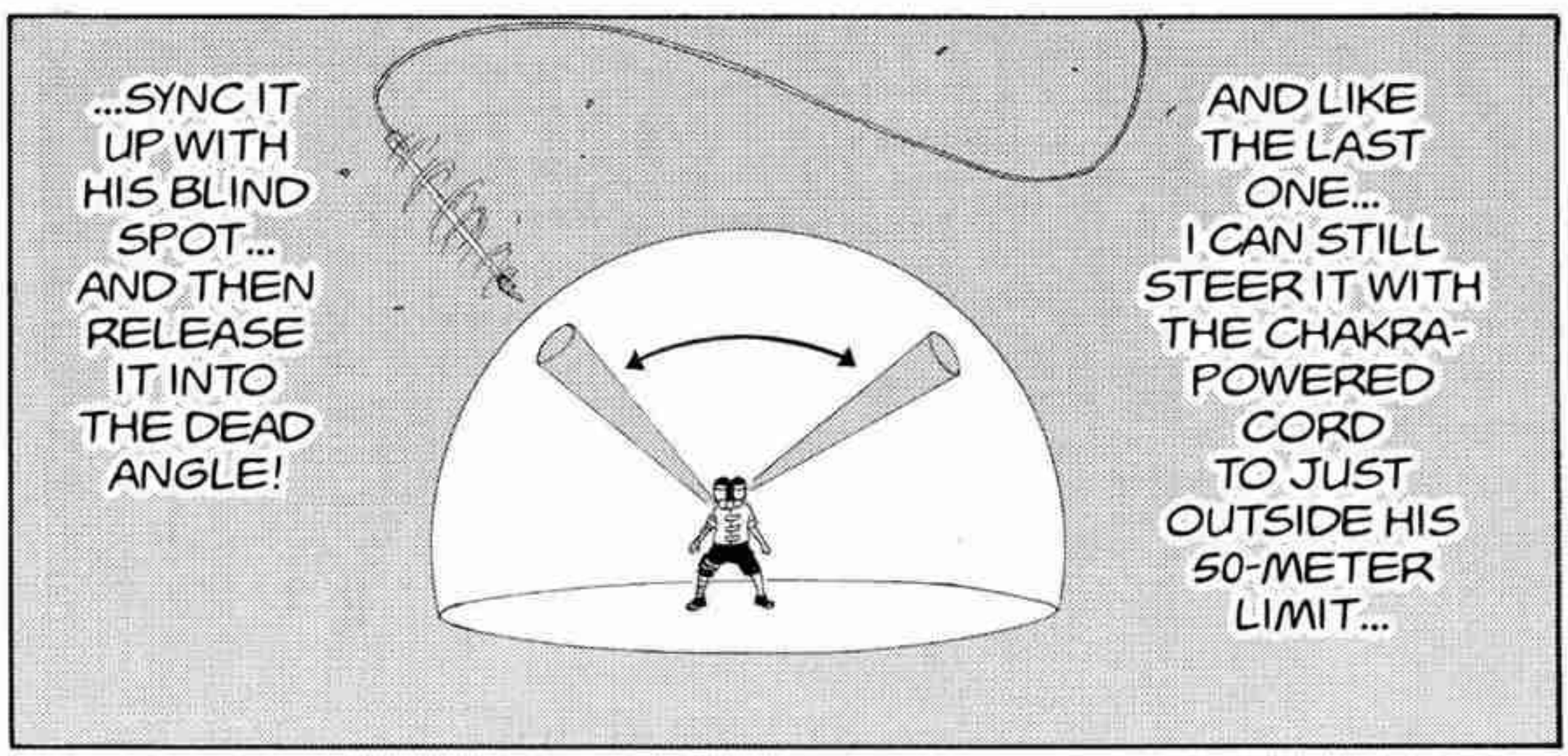



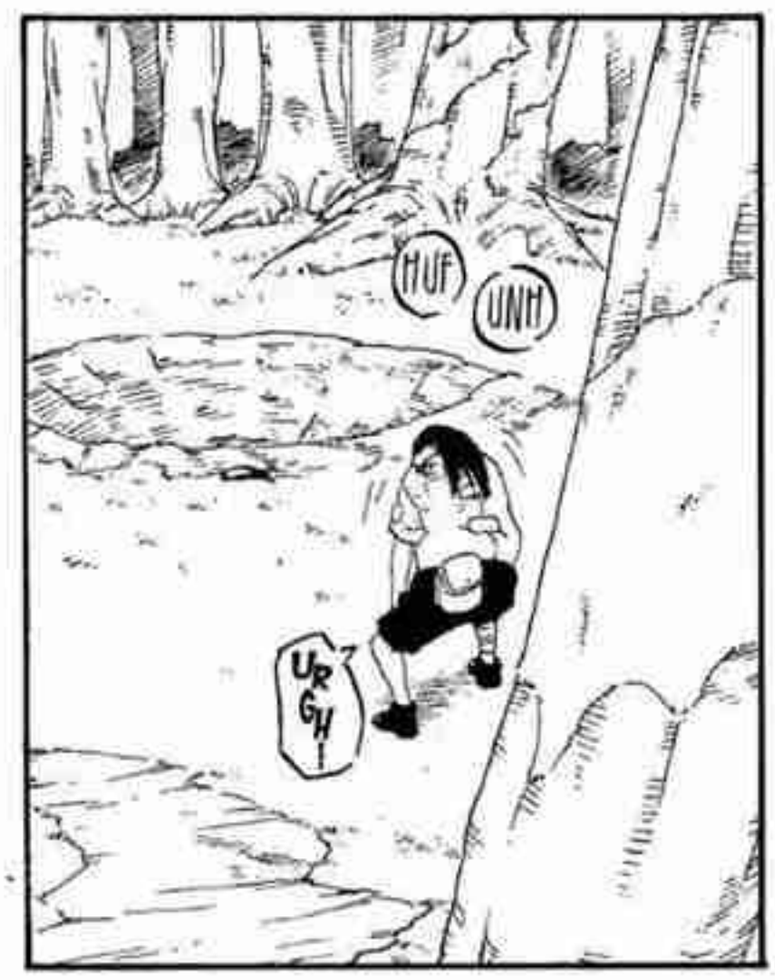
I'LL ADD SPIN... SO THAT EVEN IF IT HITS A TREE, IT CAN BORE THROUGH WITHOUT DEFLECTION.

GLOOP...

PLINK

WELL THEN, NEXT...!





...I CAN'T DODGE ANOTHER ATTACK.
I'M ALMOST OUT OF CHAKRA...

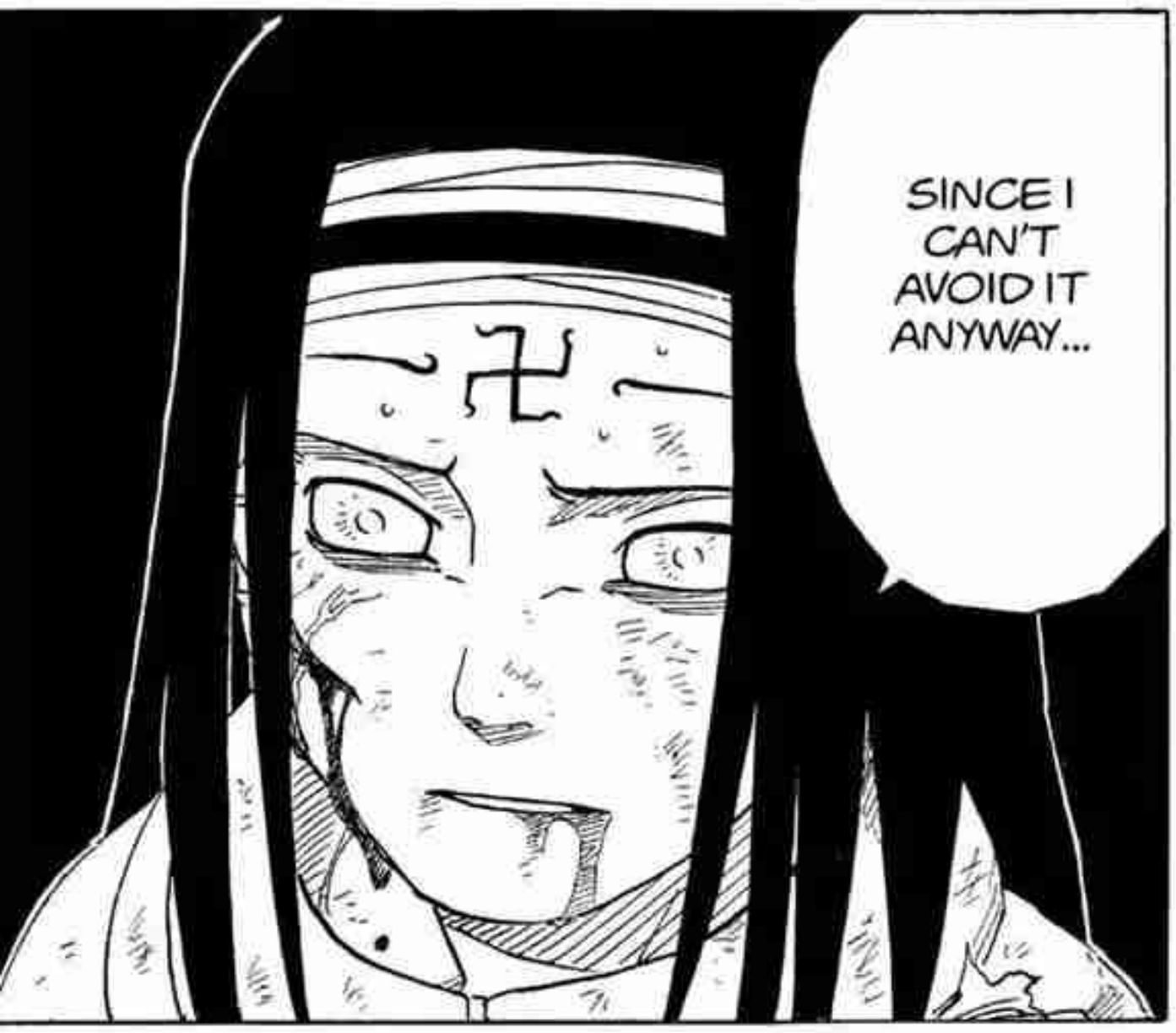
...HE IS SO MUCH STRONGER...
HUF
HUF

...TO WIN!!
I VOW...

...

...

...
NARUTO... WHAT WOULD YOU DO...?


SINCE I CAN'T AVOID IT ANYWAY...

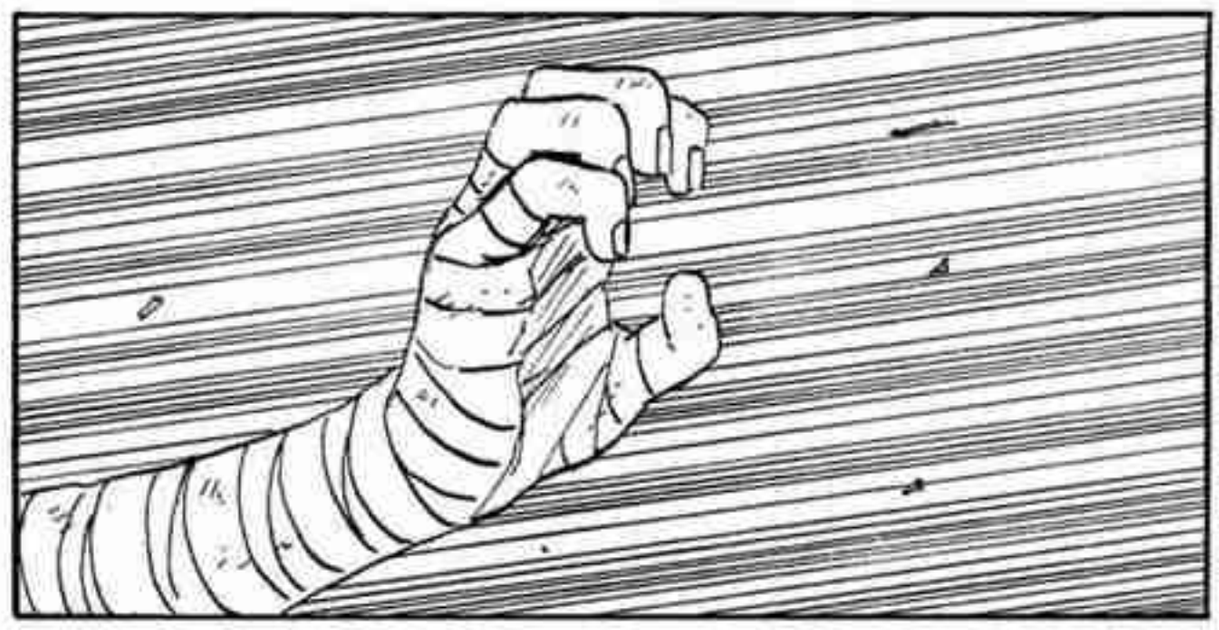
ENOUGH...
HEH...

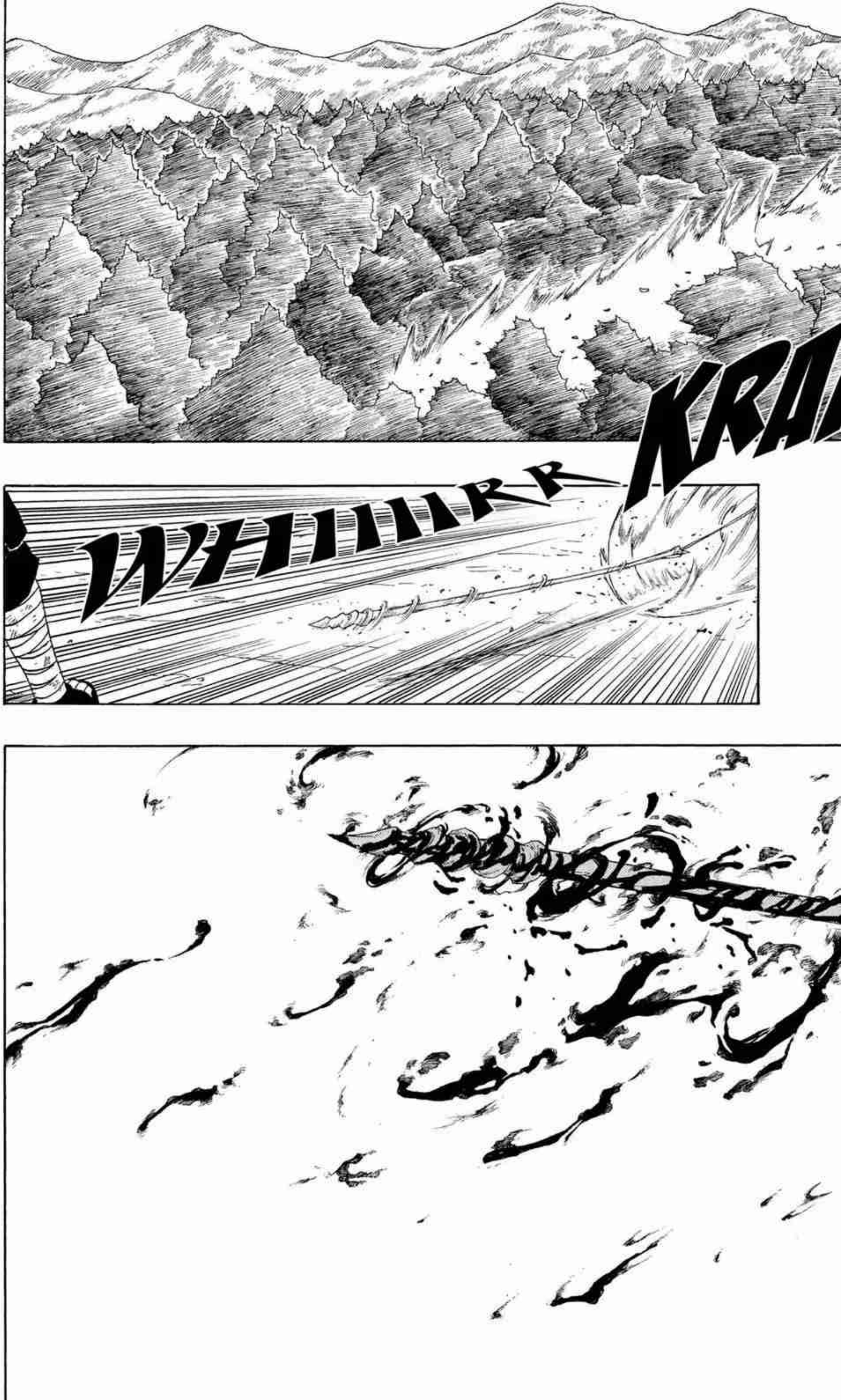
KRIK...
NO MATTER... DOESN'T HURT TO BE CAUTIOUS!

HE STOPPED MOVING... HE'S GIVING UP?
...?!

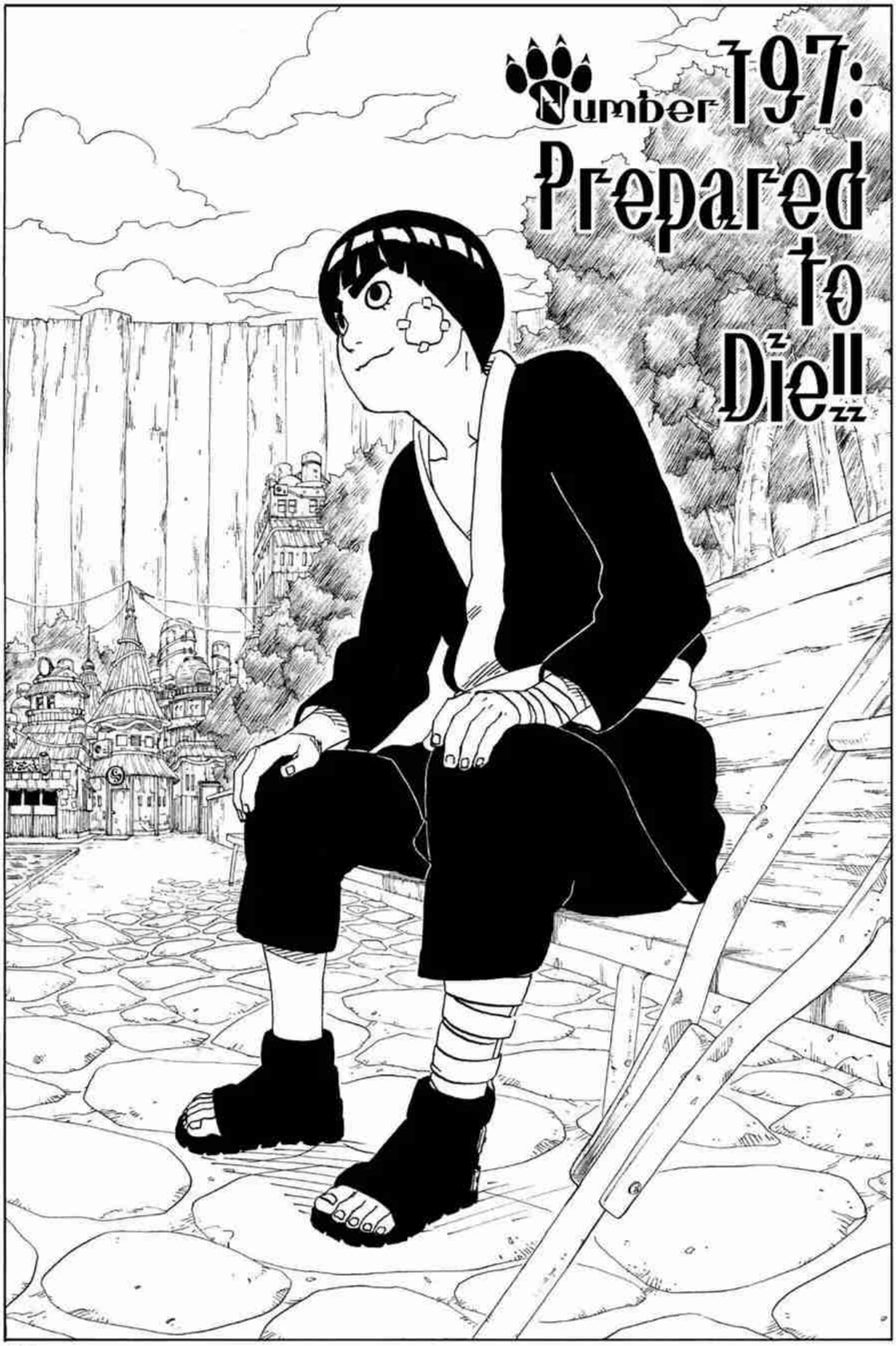
DESTRUCTIVE POWER: ABSOLUTE MAXIMUM...!
STRIKING ACCURACY: 120%.

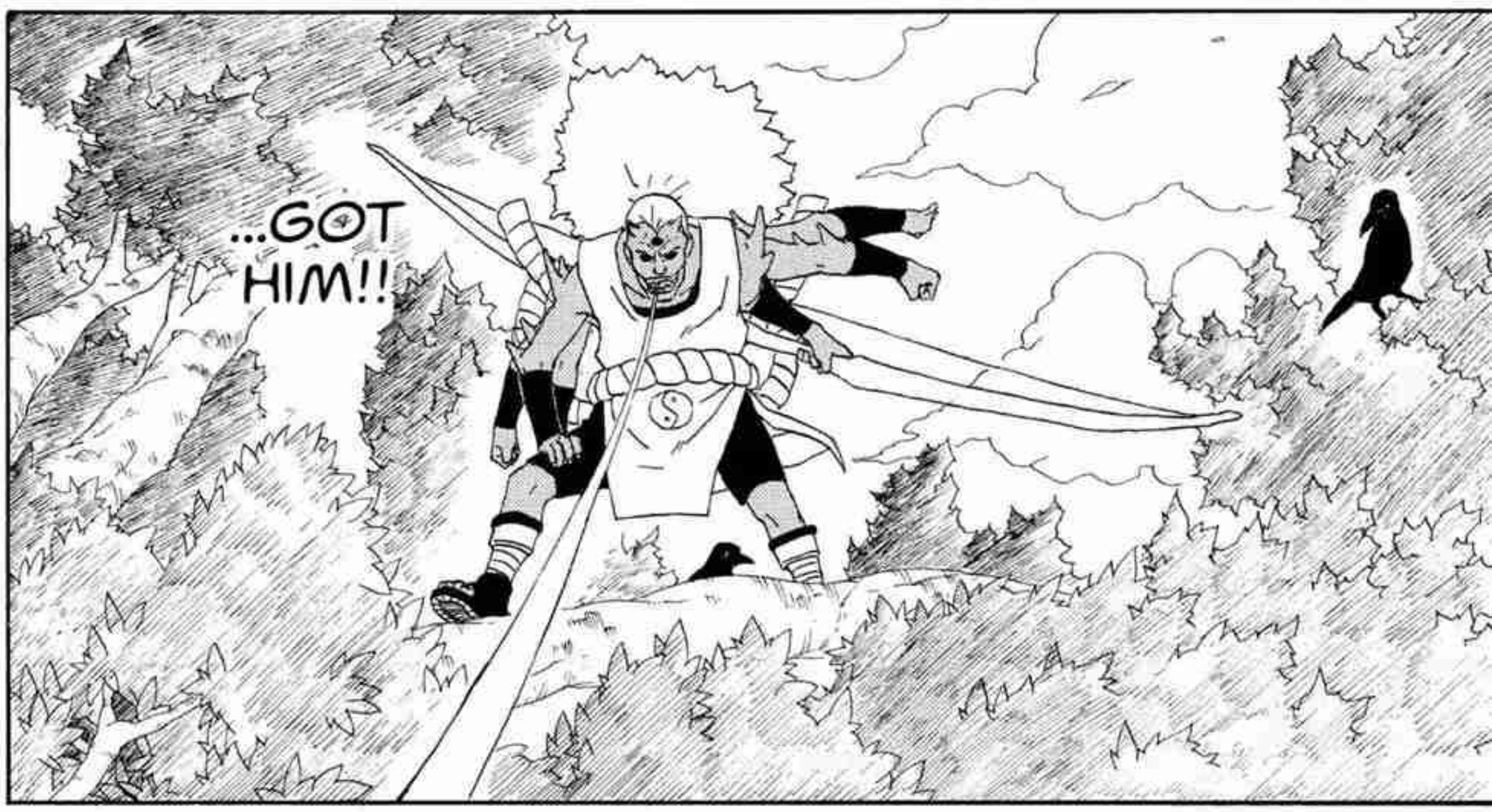
KRAKKRAKKRAK




KRA
WHIIIIRR

NARUTO
TM


Number 197:
Prepared to Die!!

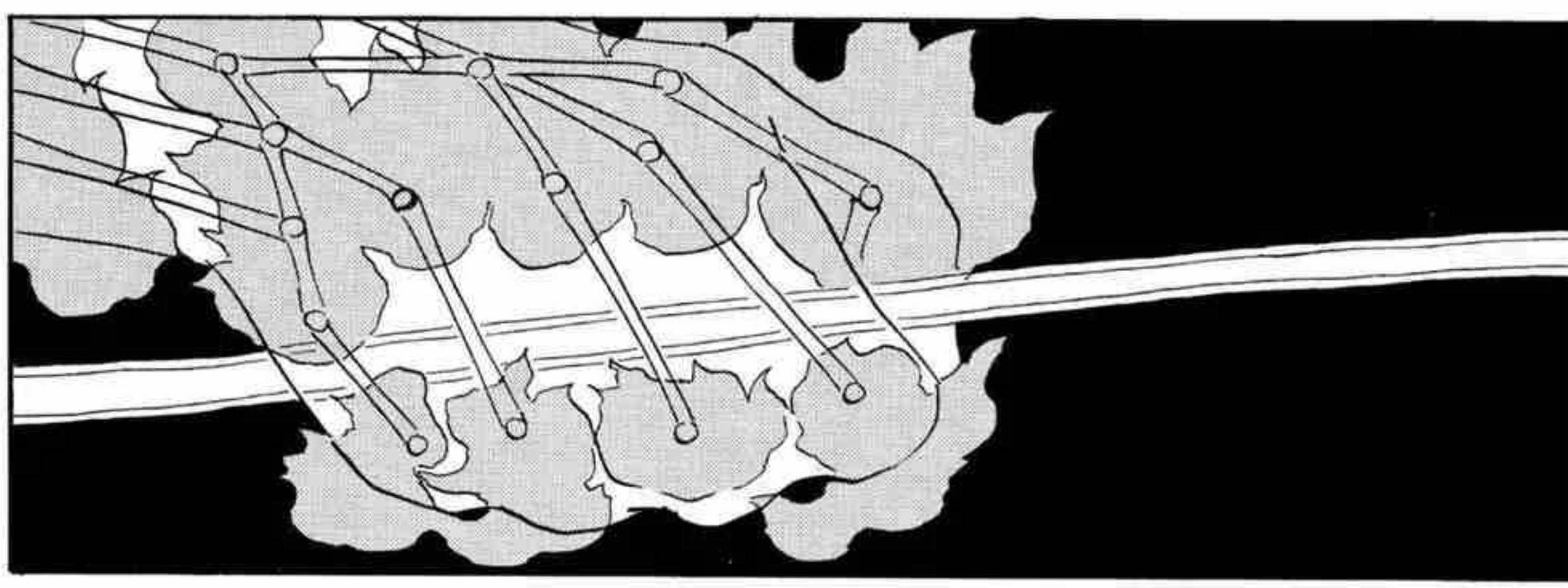

...GOT HIM!!

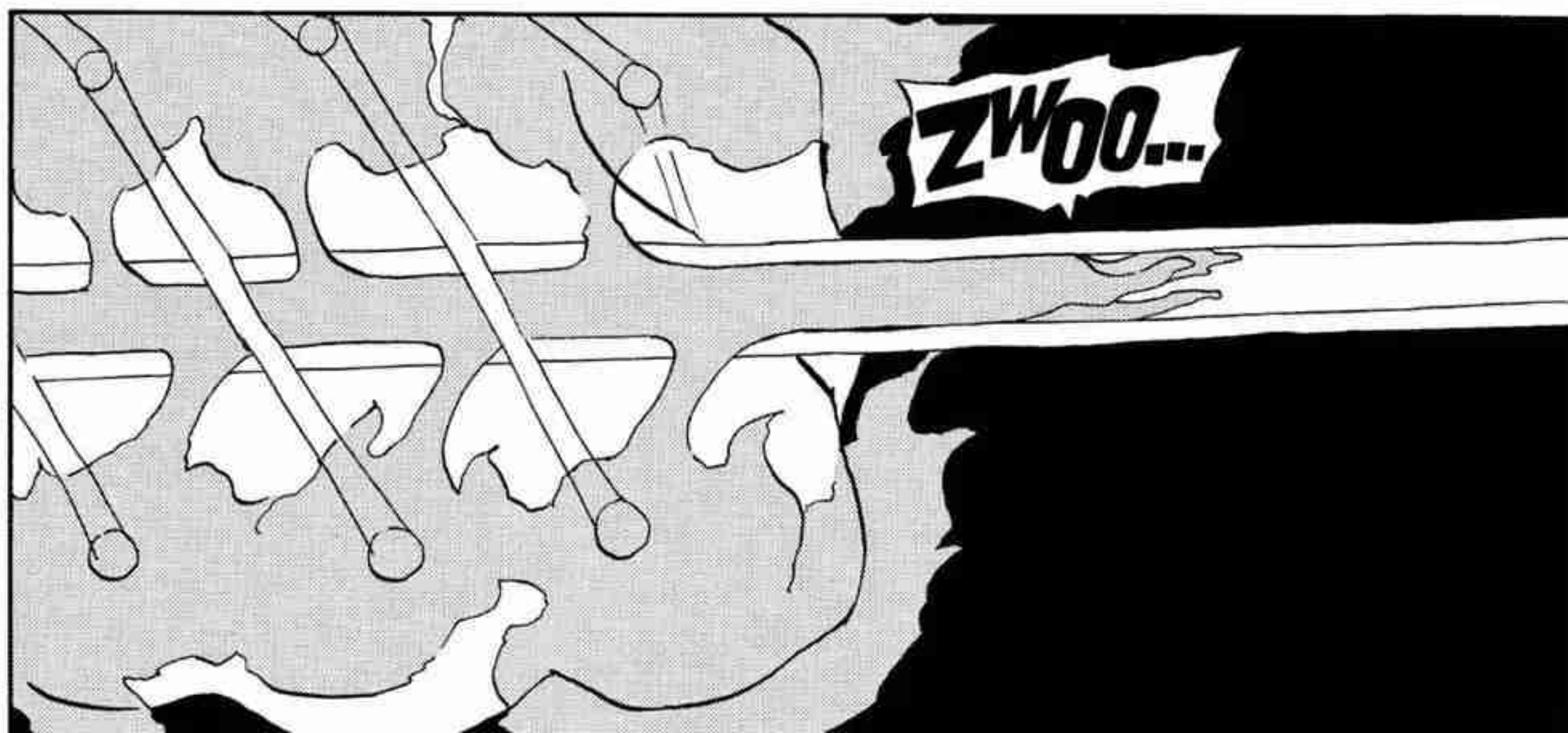
SPLAT
SPLAT
SPLAT

ARGH!!

BRAKE
SLAM
...GOTCHA...!
SCREECH
SIZZLE...

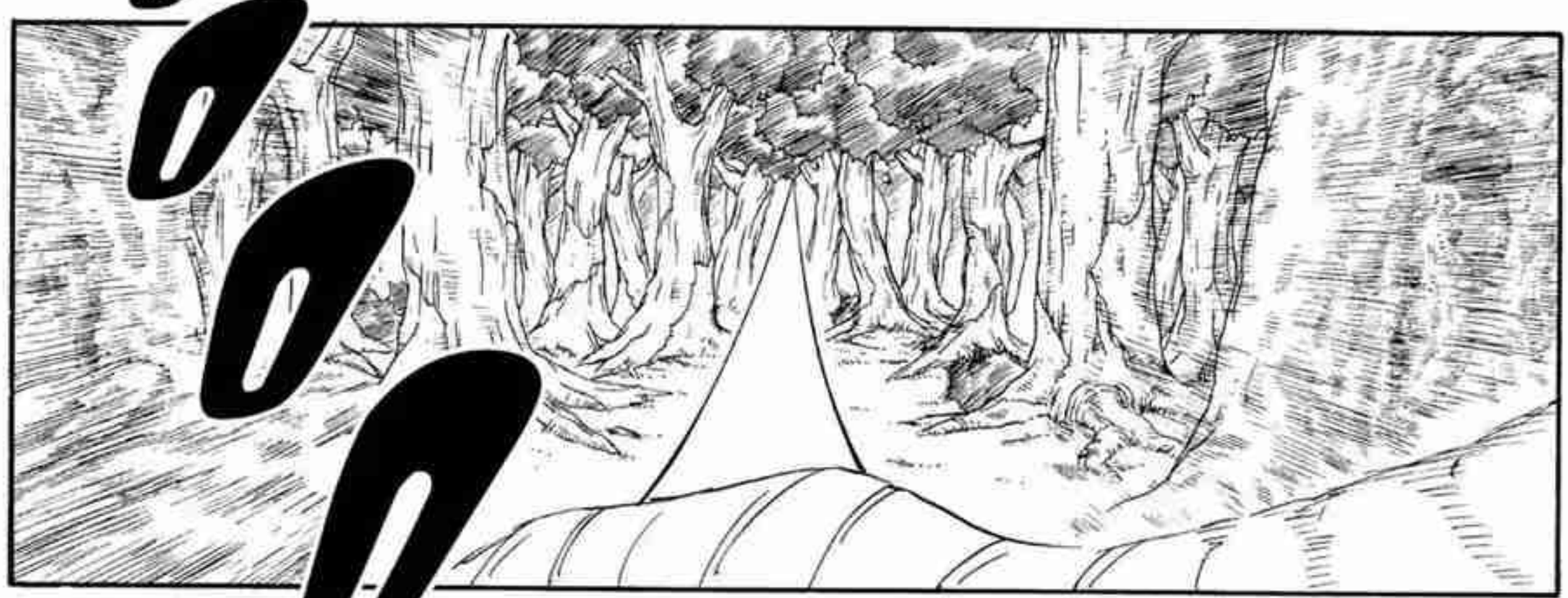
GENTLE FIST!!

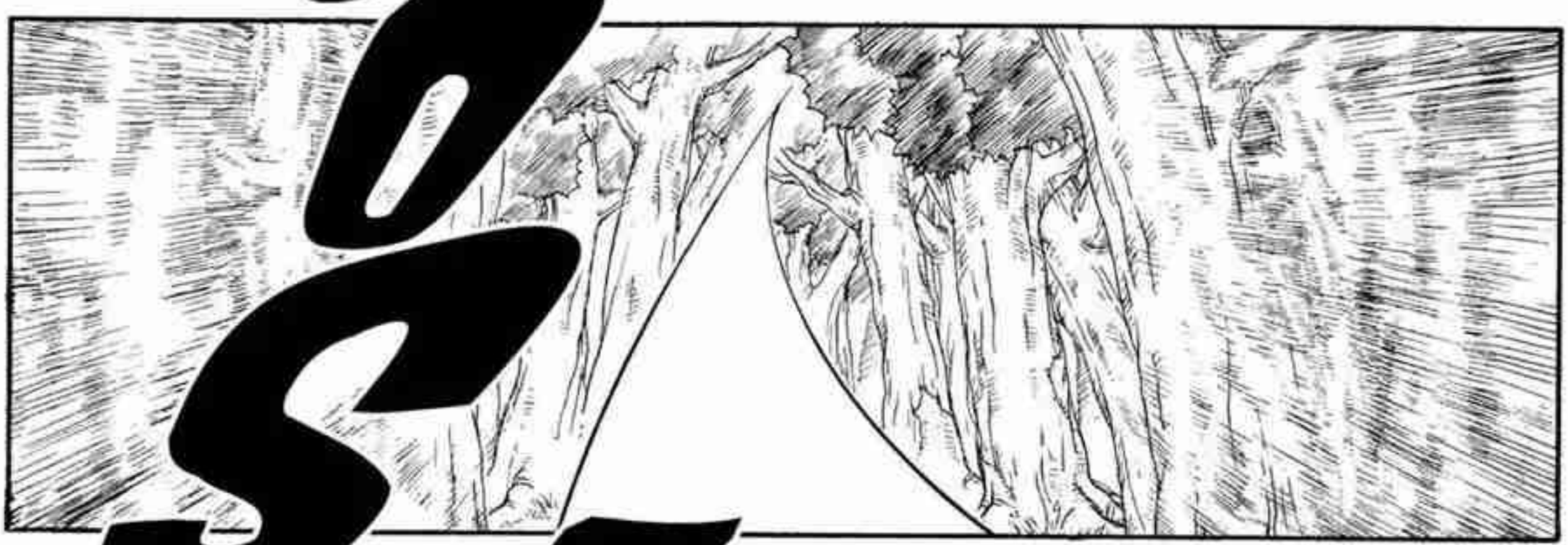




CLENCH
ZWOOO

ZW



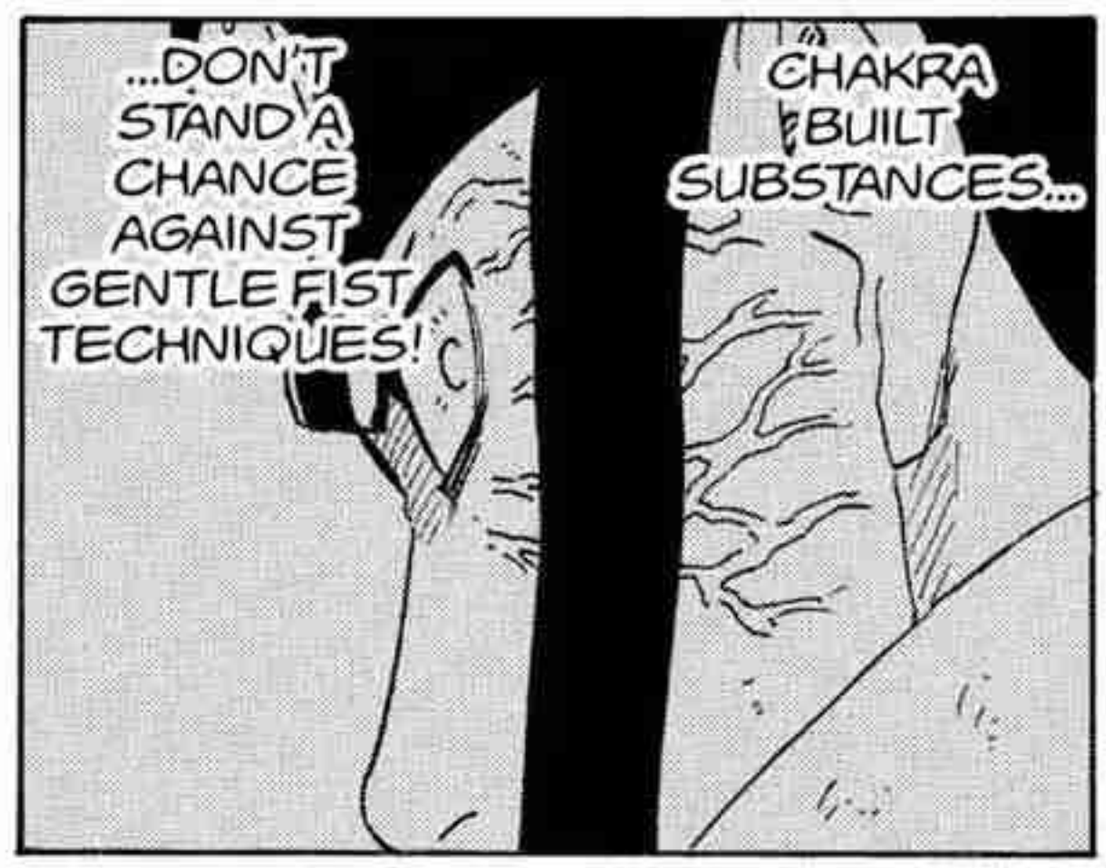


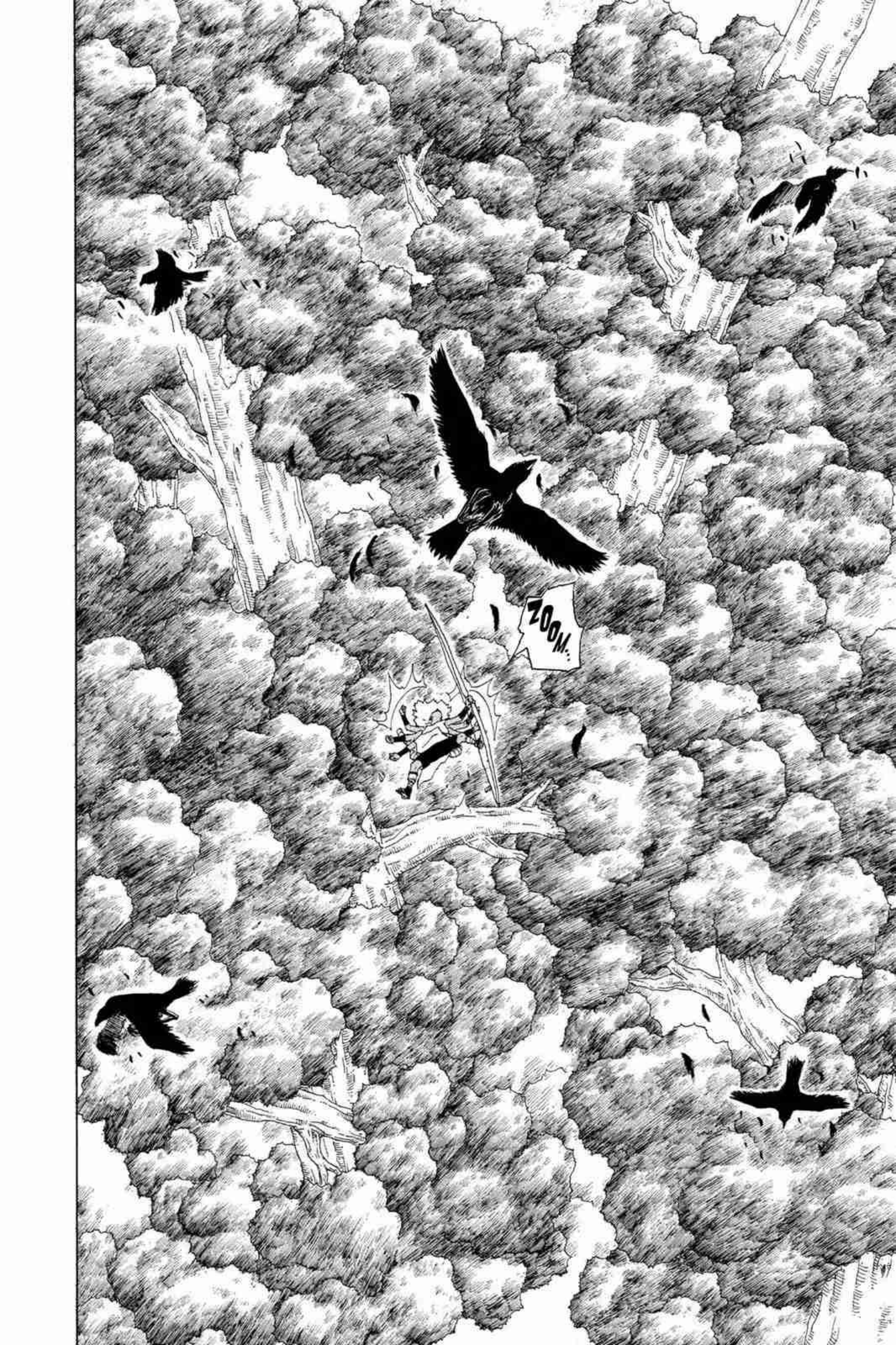
?!!

BUT... I KNOW I HIT HIM!

WH... WHAT...
...HE'S STILL ALIVE?!
HUNH...
...

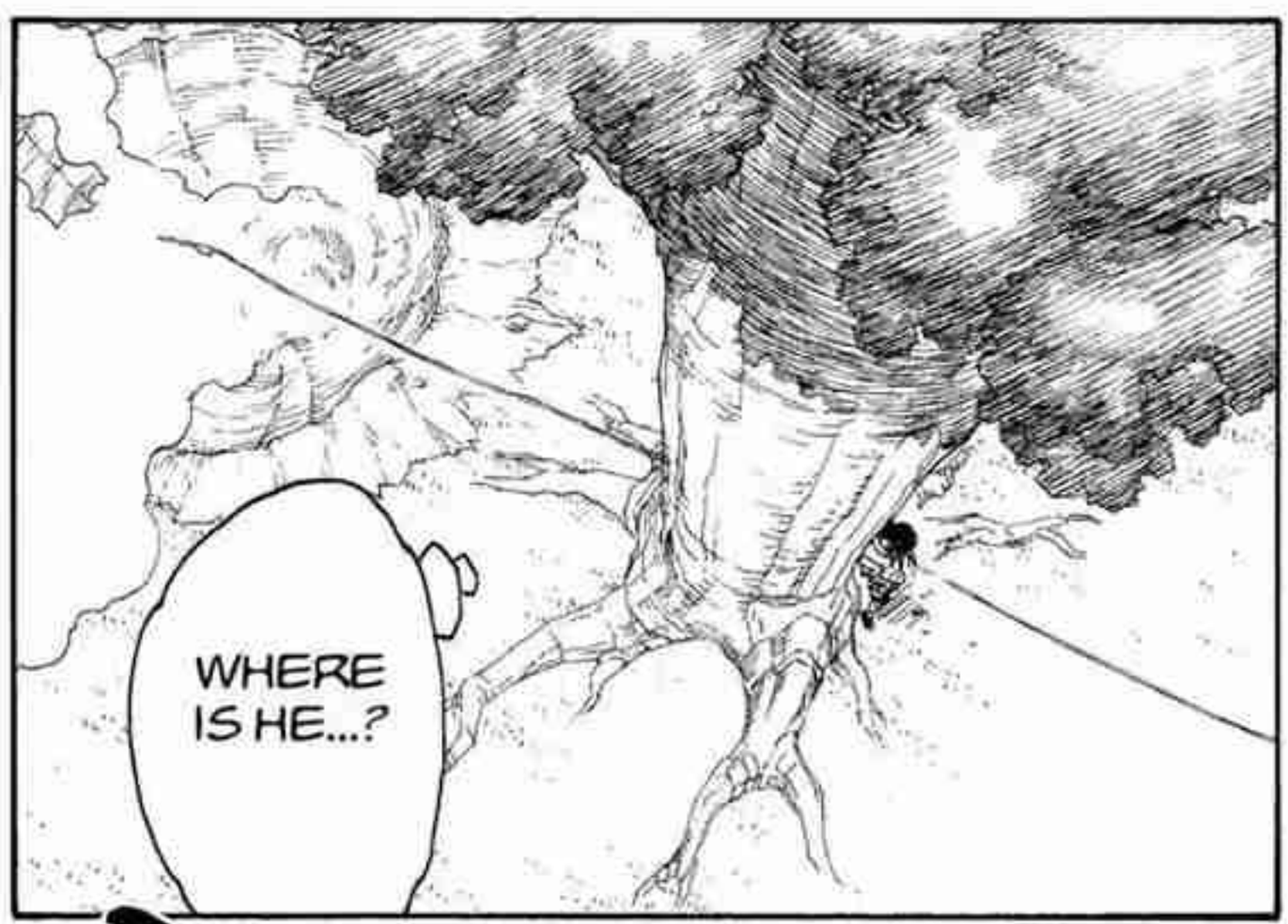
WAVER...
HUH... HE FLOODED MY CORD WITH THE LAST OF HIS CHAKRA AS HE DIED...
...THE GENTLE FIST...
FLAP


...DON'T STAND A CHANCE AGAINST GENTLE FIST TECHNIQUES!
CHAKRA BUILT SUBSTANCES...


ZOOM...

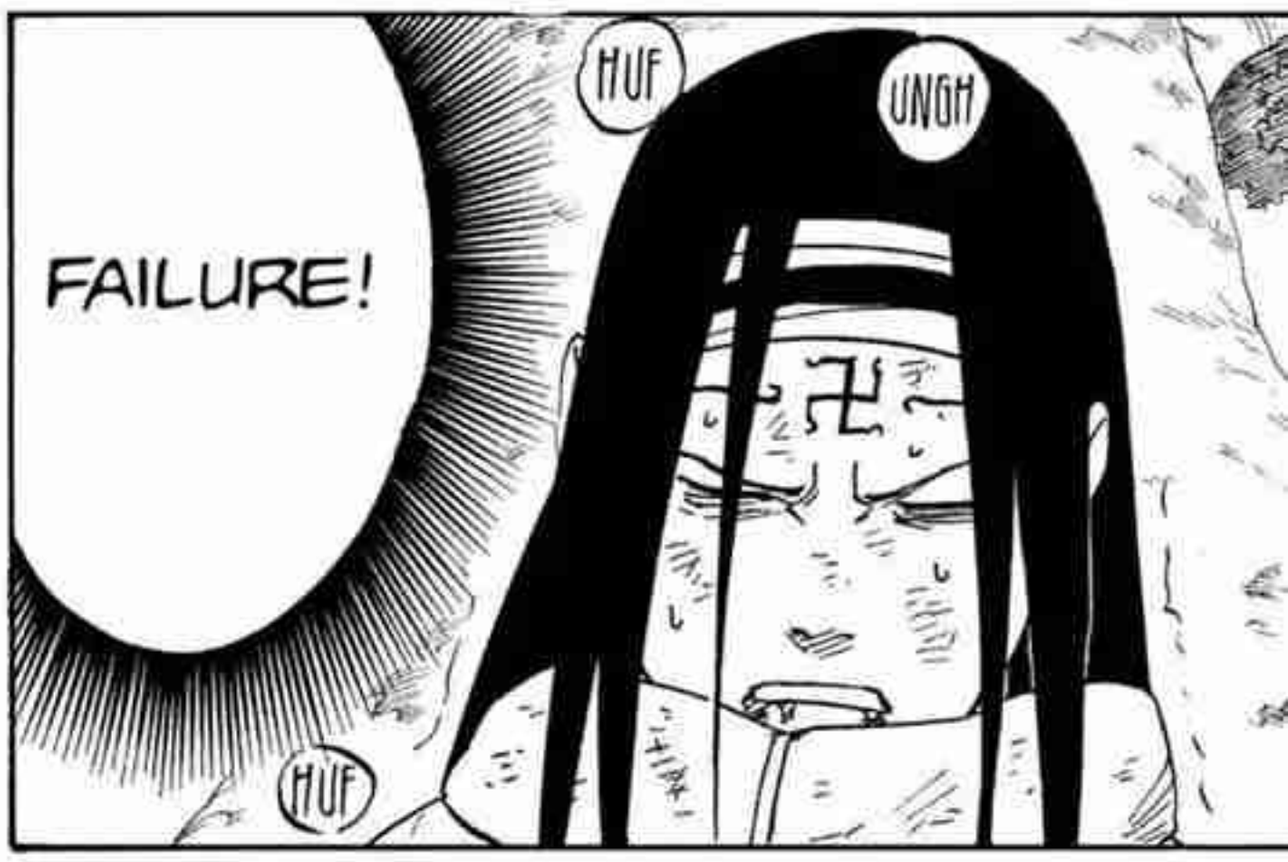
...MISSED ONE AGAIN...

...EIGHT BIRDS...



HUF
HUF
HUF

...TO WIN!!
I VOW...


FAILURE!
HUF
UNGH
HUF

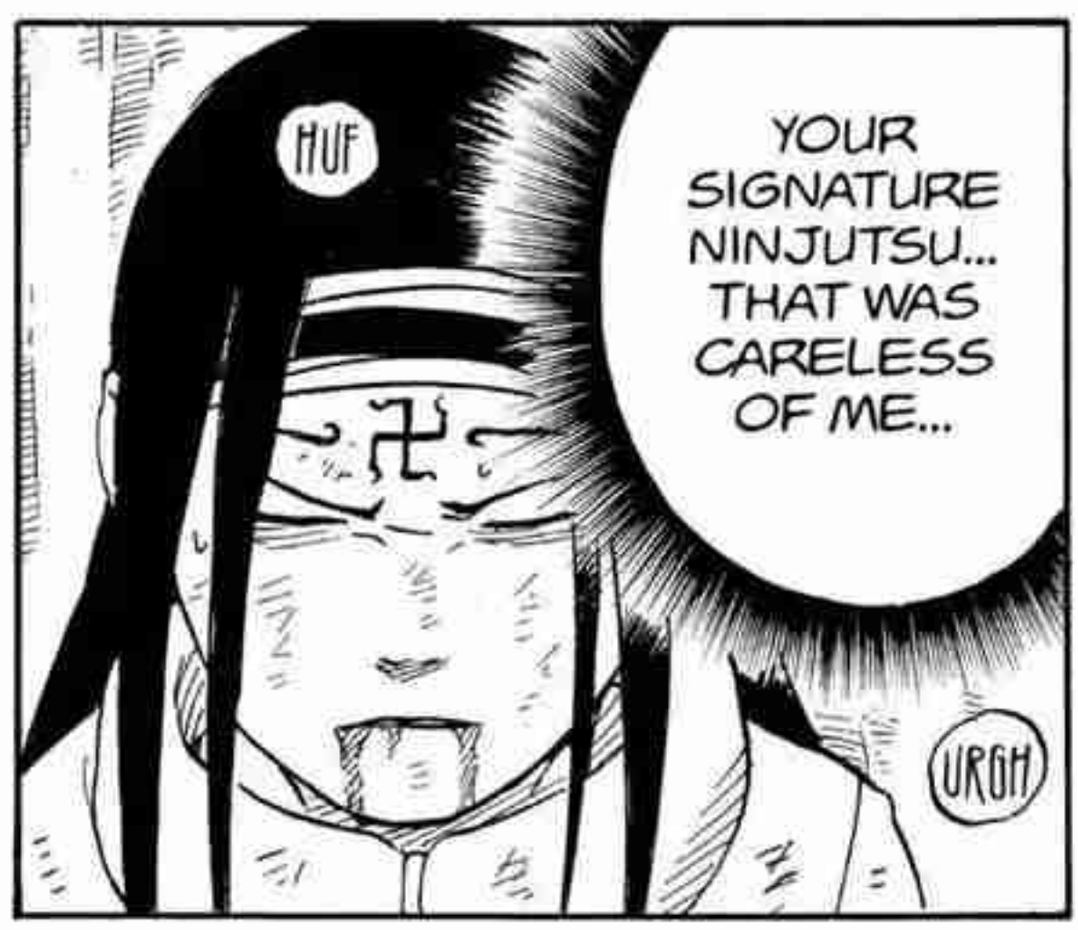
WHY DO YOU KEEP TRYING SO HARD TO DEFY YOUR DESTINY?!
CAN I ASK YOU SOME-THING?
HUF
HUF

...I'M A SORE LOSER...!
I TOLD YOU...

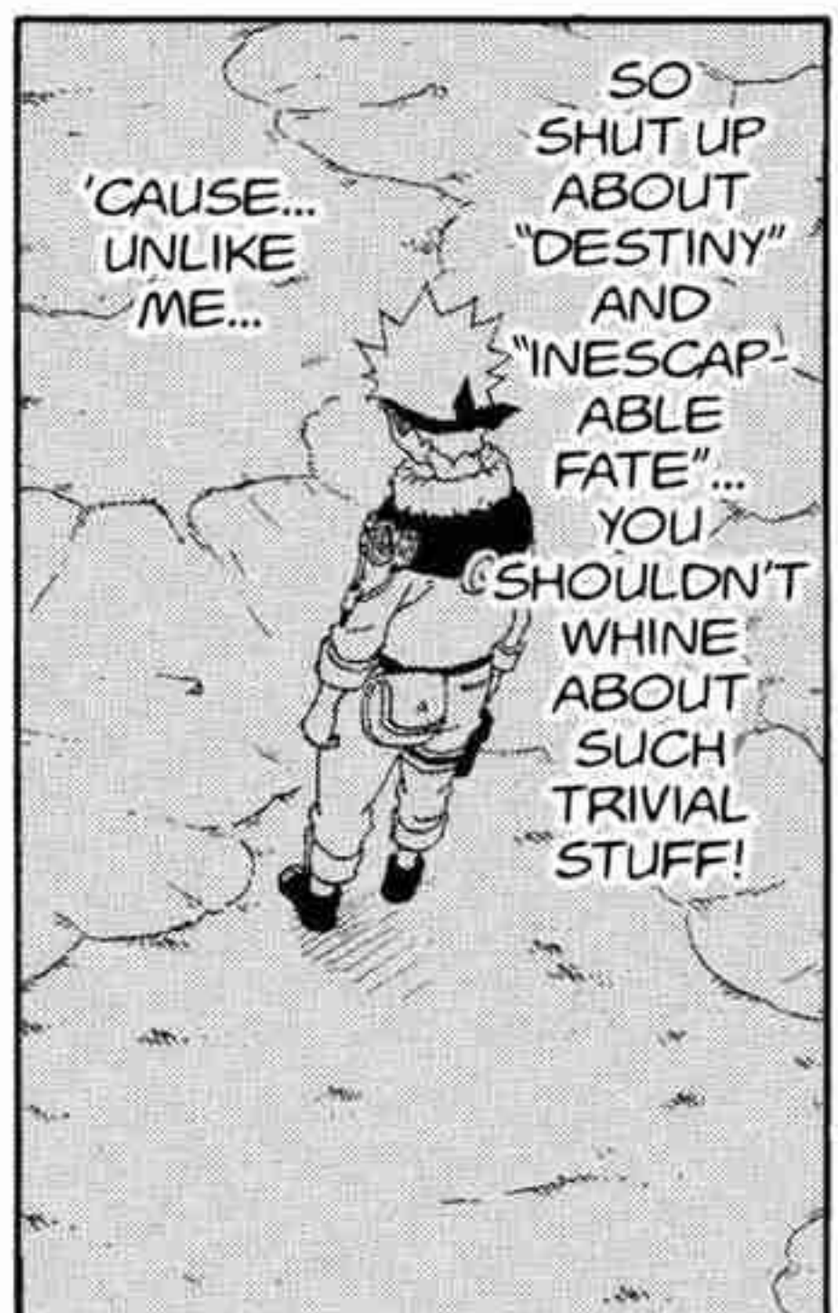
...
HUF
HUF

HUF
URGH

...I WAS A FAILURE!
BECAUSE SOMEBODY TOLD ME...


HUF
YOUR SIGNATURE NINJUTSU... THAT WAS CARELESS OF ME...
URGH

I'LL CHANGE THE HYUGA CLAN, WHEN I BECOME HOKAGE!!
IF YOU THINK IT'S INESCAP-ABLE, FINE! THEN STOP FIGHTING IT ALREADY!!


'CAUSE... UNLIKE ME...
SO SHUT UP ABOUT "DESTINY" AND "INESCAP-ABLE FATE"... YOU SHOULDN'T WHINE ABOUT SUCH TRIVIAL STUFF!

HUF

AND MY WEAKEST NINJUTSU...
...WAS BUNSHIN NO JUTSU... THE ART OF THE DOPPEL-GANGER.

...YOU'RE NOT A "FAILURE"!

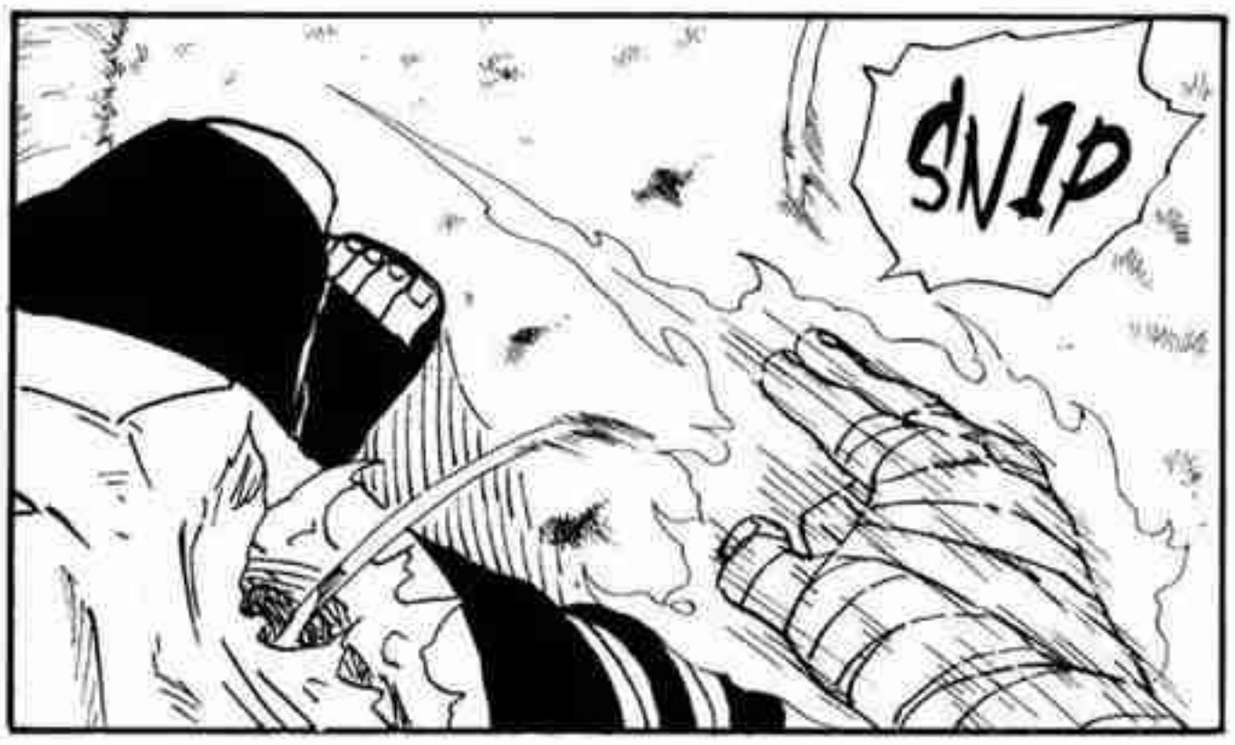
HE'S...

KNOW WHAT...?
?

...AND NEJI, I'VE FOUGHT IN THE CHÛNIN EXAM...
...SO I KNOW...
...CHOJI'S GOT THAT ACE UP HIS SLEEVE...

...A REAL GENIUS...!
FWWT

FWOOSH
SLURP!

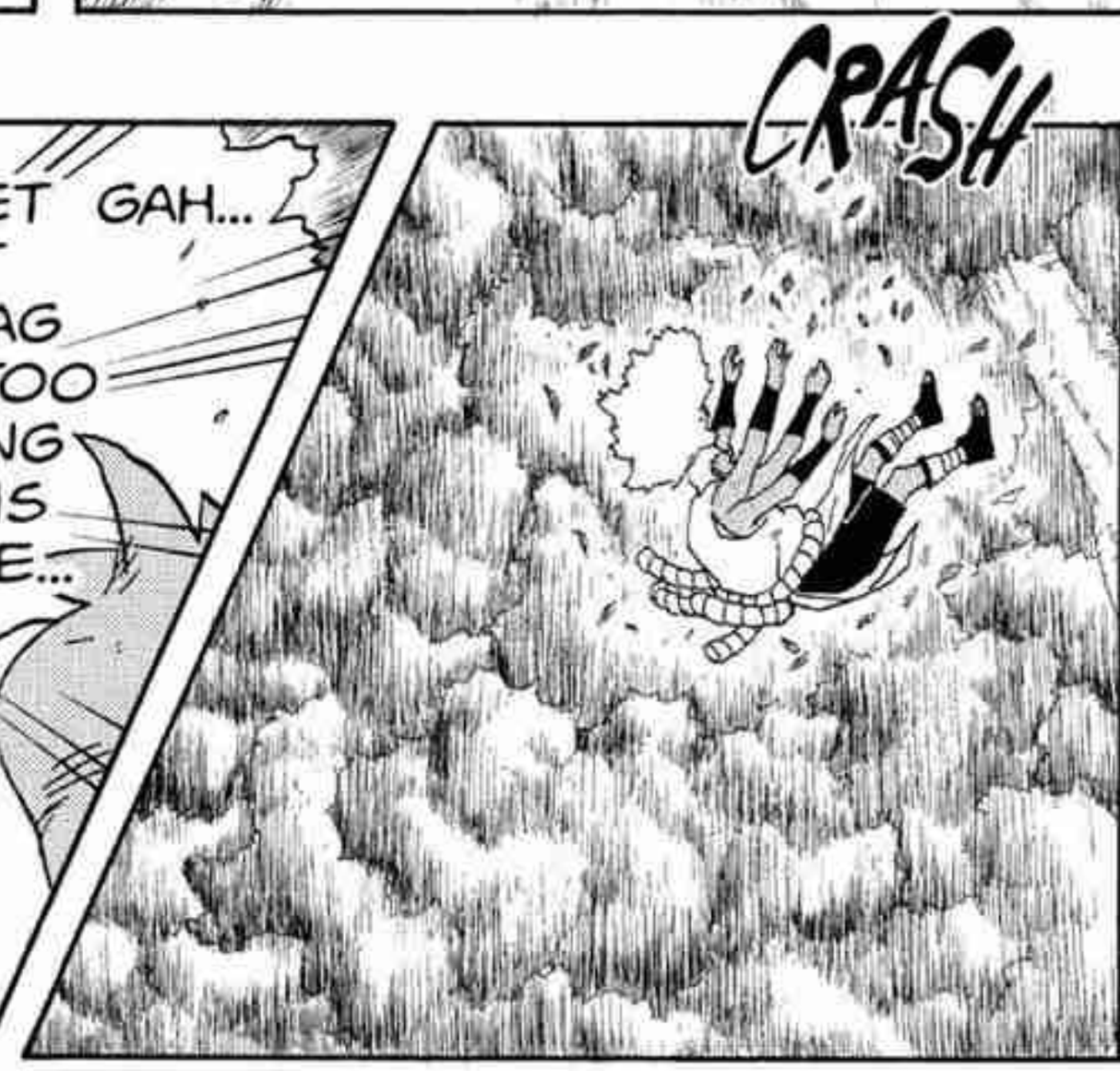

SNIP

I CANNOT LOSE.
CLENCH

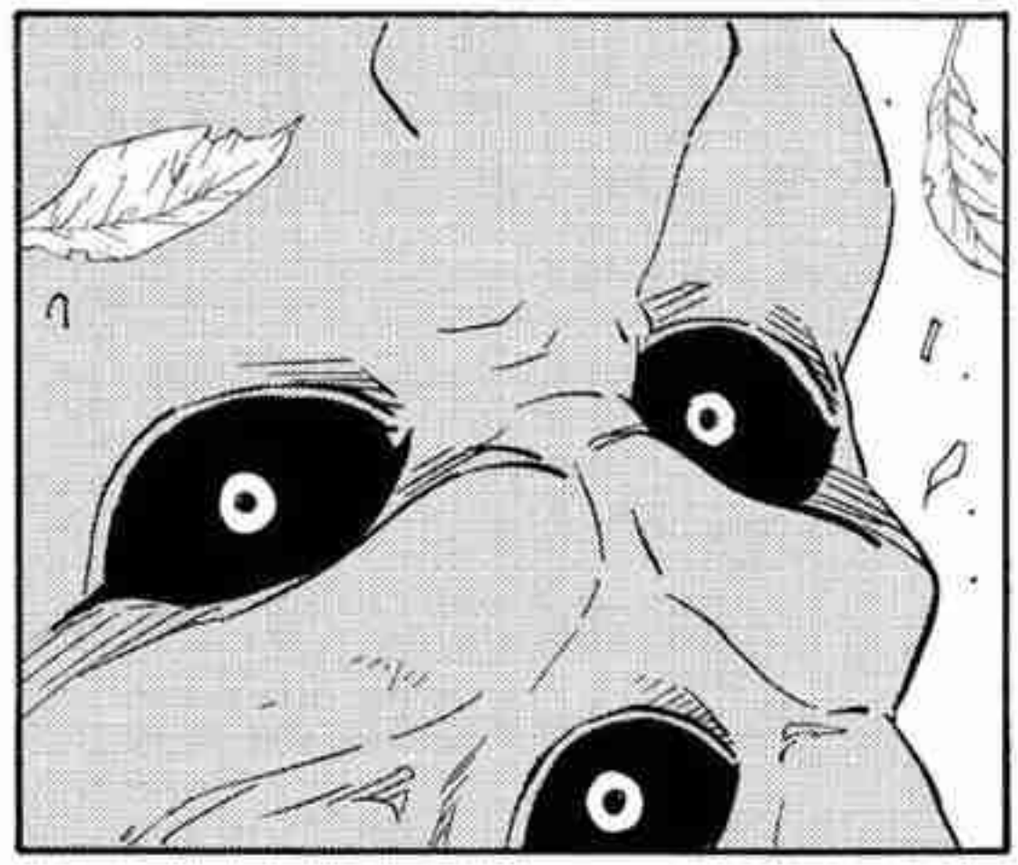
...EVEN IF I WERE TO DIE...
...EVEN IF MY OPPONENT IS STRONGER...
I CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE...

I SIMPLY CAN'T...!
UGH!

...PLAYED TOO HARD...
I LET IT DRAG ON TOO LONG THIS TIME...
GAH...

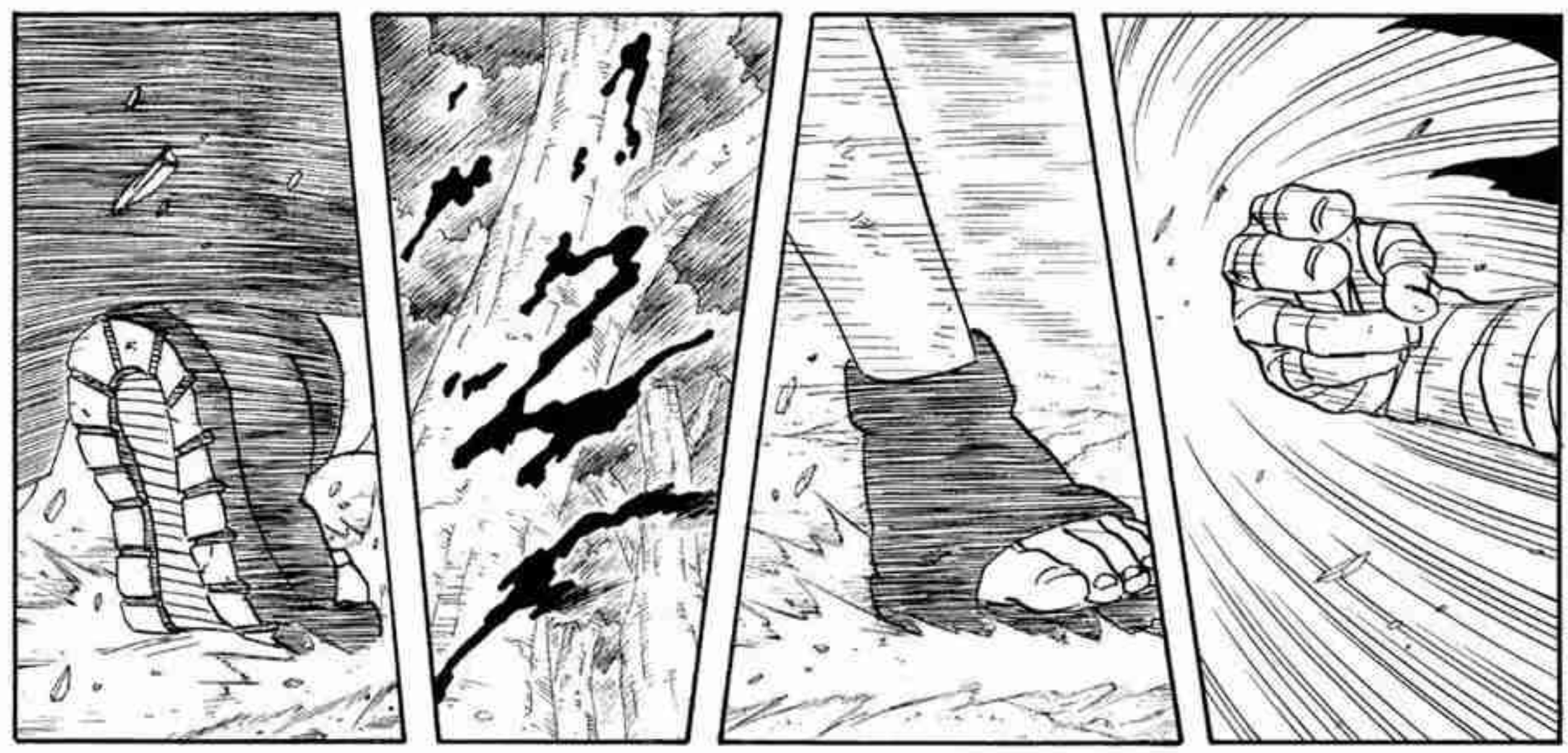

CRASH

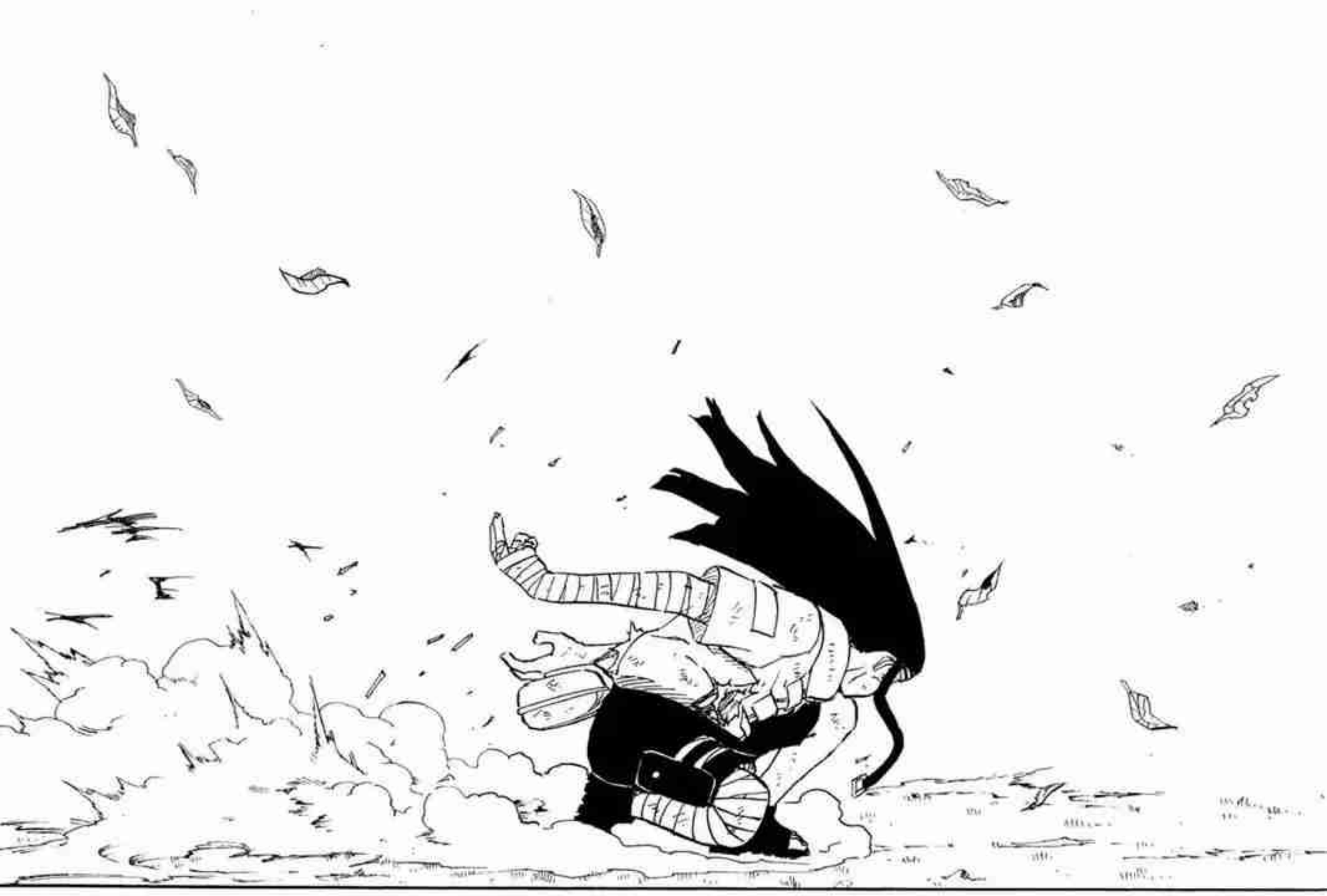
READ
THIS
WAY



...!

HUH?





WHUMP

...I DECIDED... TO TAKE THE HIT...
HUF
URGH
... COULDN'T DODGE IT ANYWAY...

FWOOSH
HOW? YOU SHOULD BE DEAD... WHY AREN'T YOU?!
FWHOOOOSH
CAN'T USE CHAKRA...
UGH...
...SEVEN BIRDS...
...FROM STICK TWO...
GUESS THERE WERE EIGHT...
...
I KNOW MY LIMITS BETTER THAN YOU...

...I COULD RE-FOCUS AND EMIT MY CHAKRA JUST AROUND THERE... IT WASN'T TOO HARD TO THEN MOVE ENOUGH TO MAKE YOU MISS...

I'M HURT... BUT I'M ALIVE.

I KNEW THAT THE BYAKUGAN HAD A DEAD ANGLE.

AND ONCE I SAW YOU WERE ONLY ATTACKING THERE...

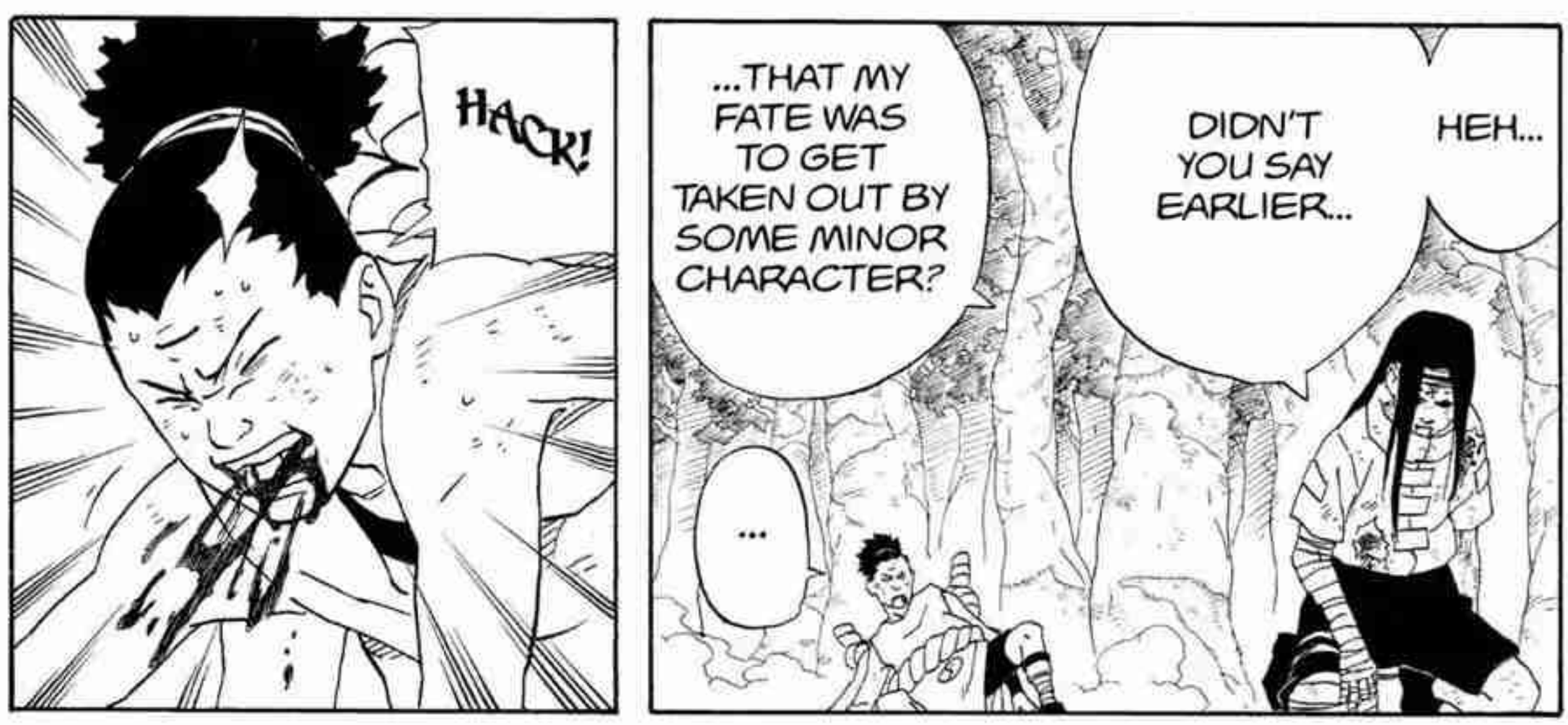
PEOPLE THINK I'M A GENIUS... I CAN'T LET THEM DOWN!
HUF
HUF

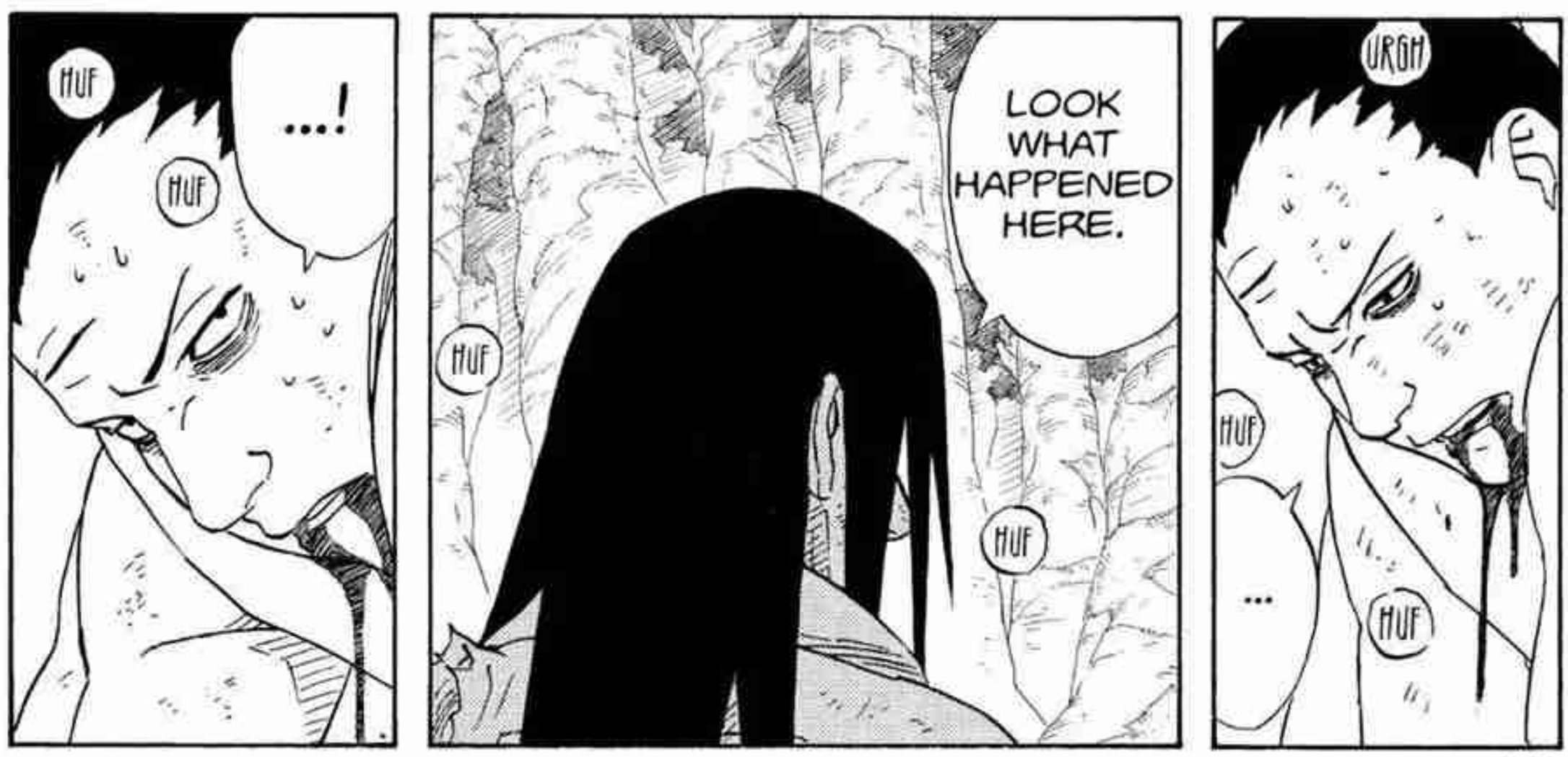
...
HUF
HUF

TOO MANY PEOPLE HAVE FAITH IN ME...!

NARUTO
TM

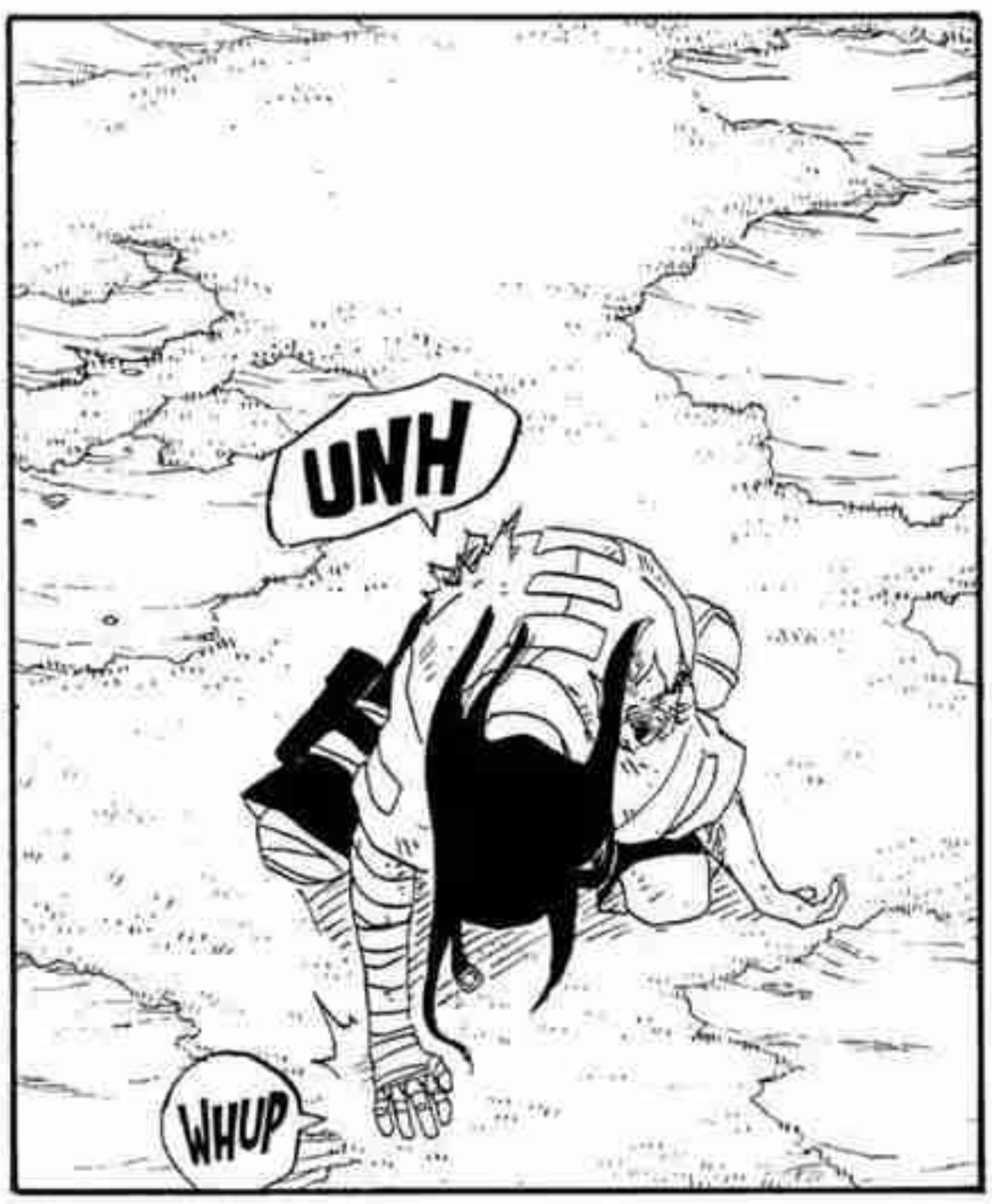
# Number 198: Transference...!!


HACK!
...THAT MY FATE WAS TO GET TAKEN OUT BY SOME MINOR CHARACTER?
DIDN'T YOU SAY EARLIER...
HEH...
...

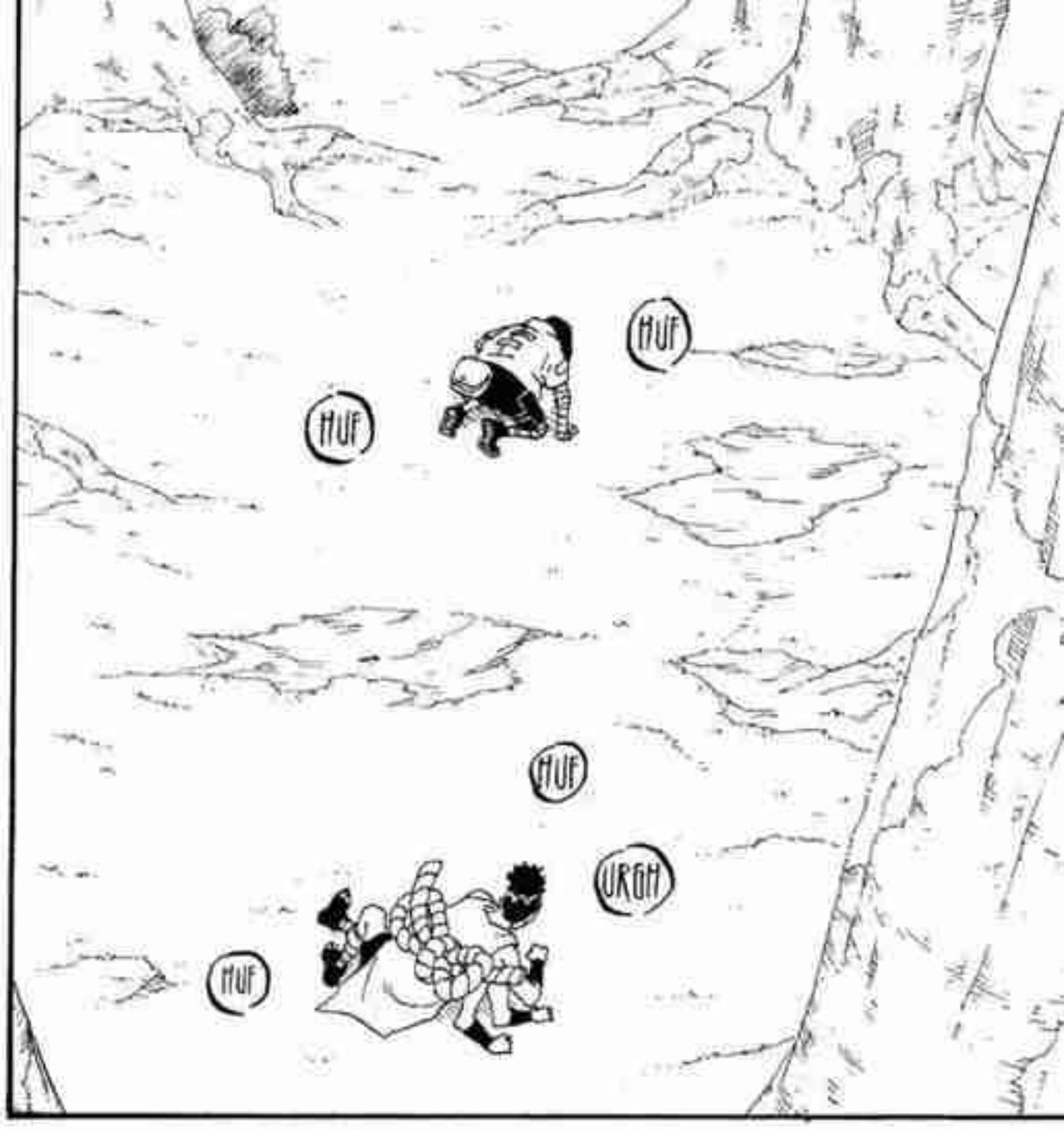

HUF
HUF
...!
LOOK WHAT HAPPENED HERE.
HUF
HUF
URGH
HUF
HUF
...

FATE...

...ISN'T SOMETHING FOR YOU TO DECIDE.



YOU STILL LOOK DEAD TO ME...
HEH...
I WONDER...


HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF
URGH

...

...MORE THAN ANYONE ELSE, YOU'VE BEEN BLESSED WITH THE GENIUS OF THE HYUGA CLAN...
NEJI... YOU...

...

I WON'T DIE LIKE THIS...

READ
THIS
WAY

HUF
HUF
...TRY ALL YOU WANT, BUT YOU CAN'T STOP IT...

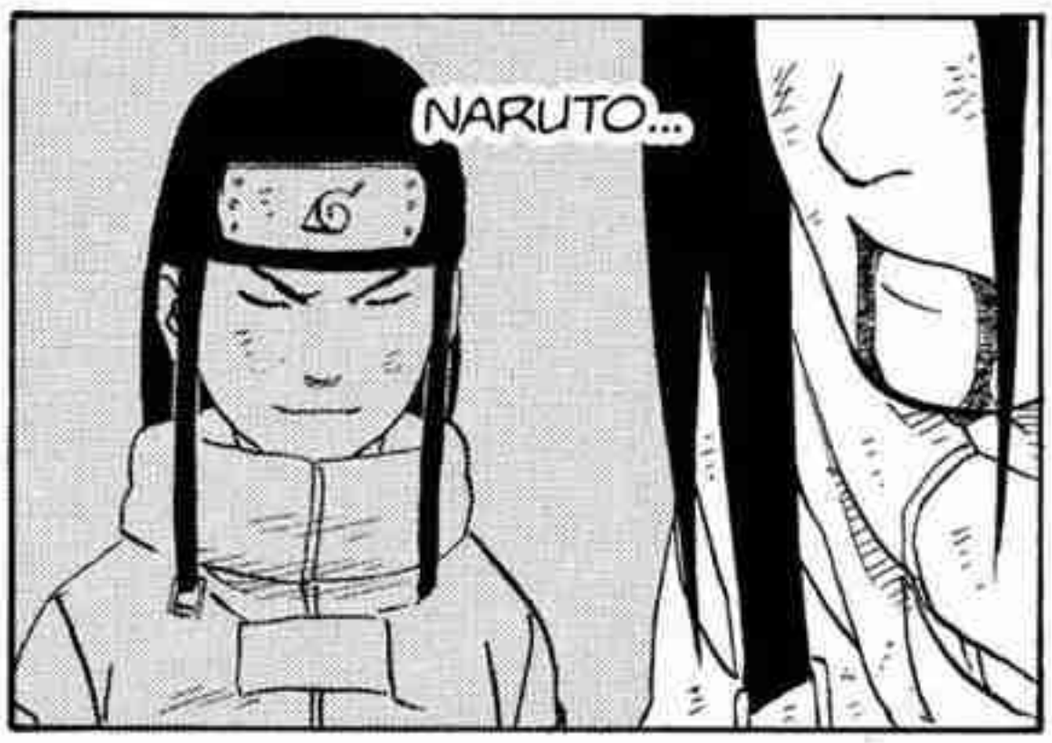
HUF
...

...HAS WILLINGLY JOINED THE SOUND.
...SASUKE...

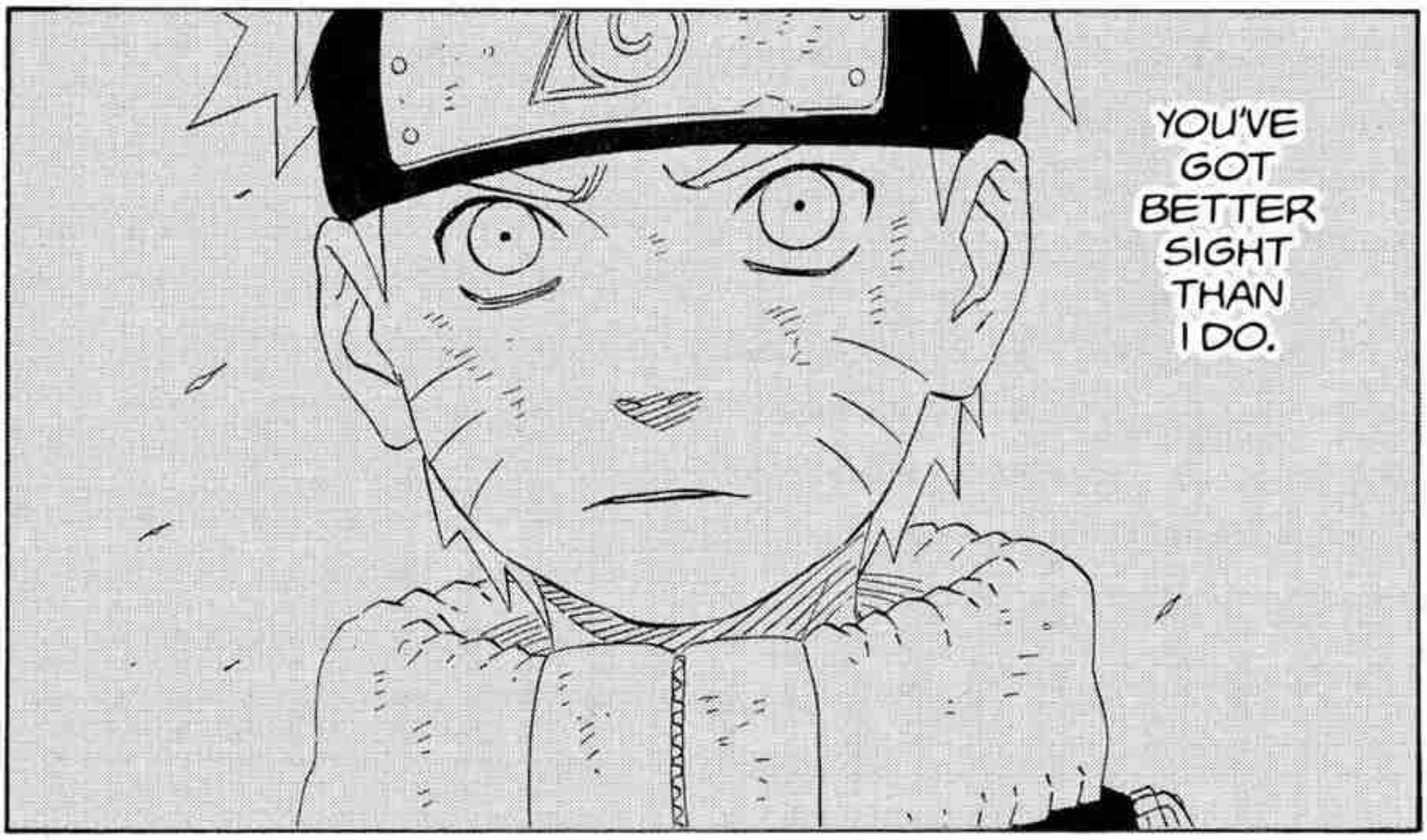
...IS WRAPPED IN DARKNESS.
RIGHT NOW, SASUKE...

HUF
HUF
...

...


NARUTO...

YOU'RE WRONG...
?!

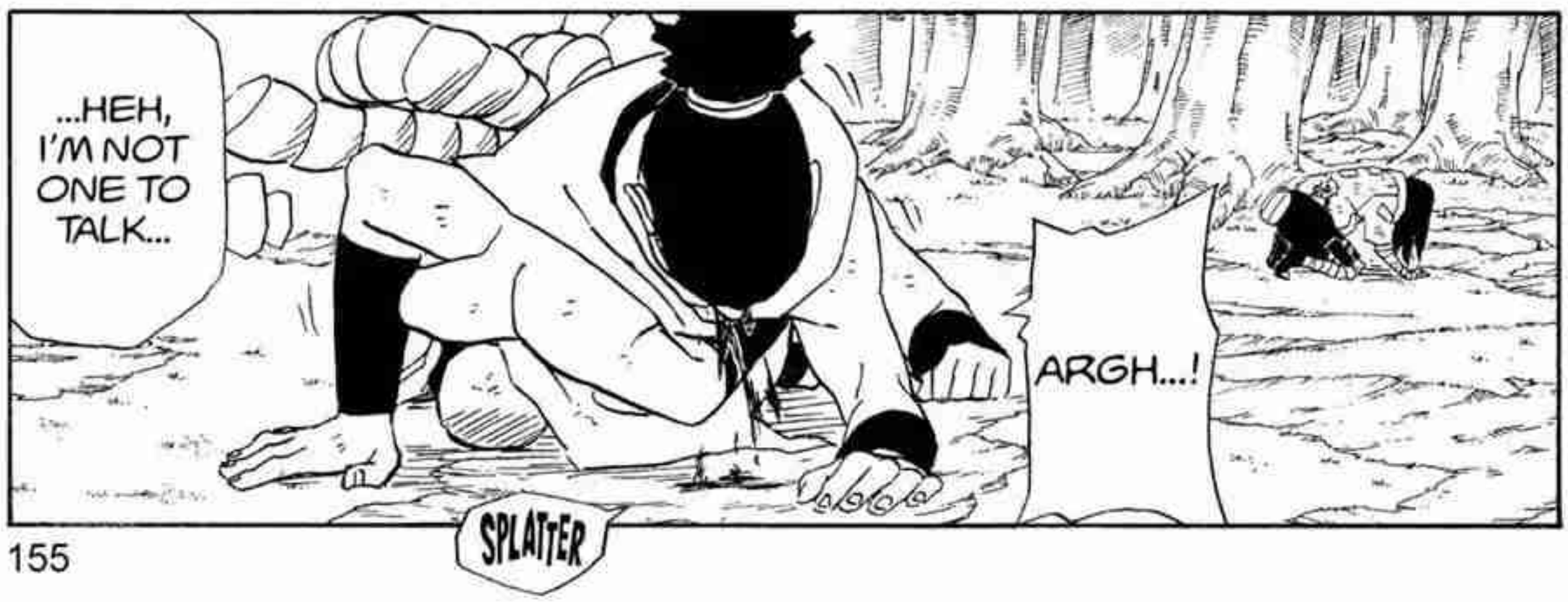

YOU'VE GOT BETTER SIGHT THAN I DO.

...WHO CAN FIND AND RESCUE SASUKE FROM THE DARKNESS!
THERE IS SOMEONE...

READ THIS WAY
HE CAN...
SASUKE BELONGS TO LORD OROCHIMARU... NO ONE CAN...
HEH...
HUF
?!
...
...NARUTO... YOU...
CLAP CLA
FOR...

...SAVED
ME
FROM
THE
DARKNESS!

HUF
...!
HUF
UGH...!
HACK
SHOOM
SMART-ALECK TO THE END...

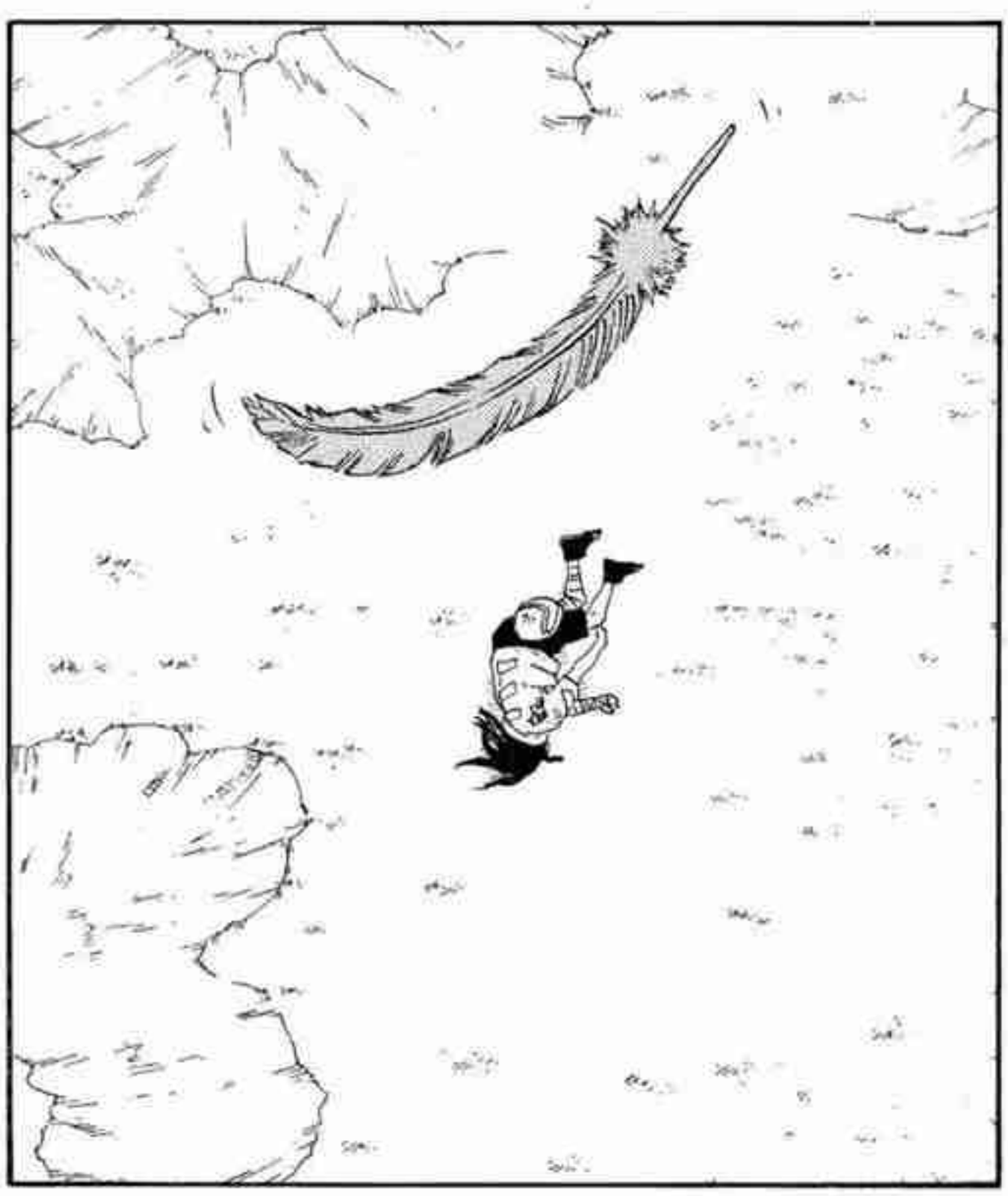

...HEH, I'M NOT ONE TO TALK...
ARGH...!
SPLATTER

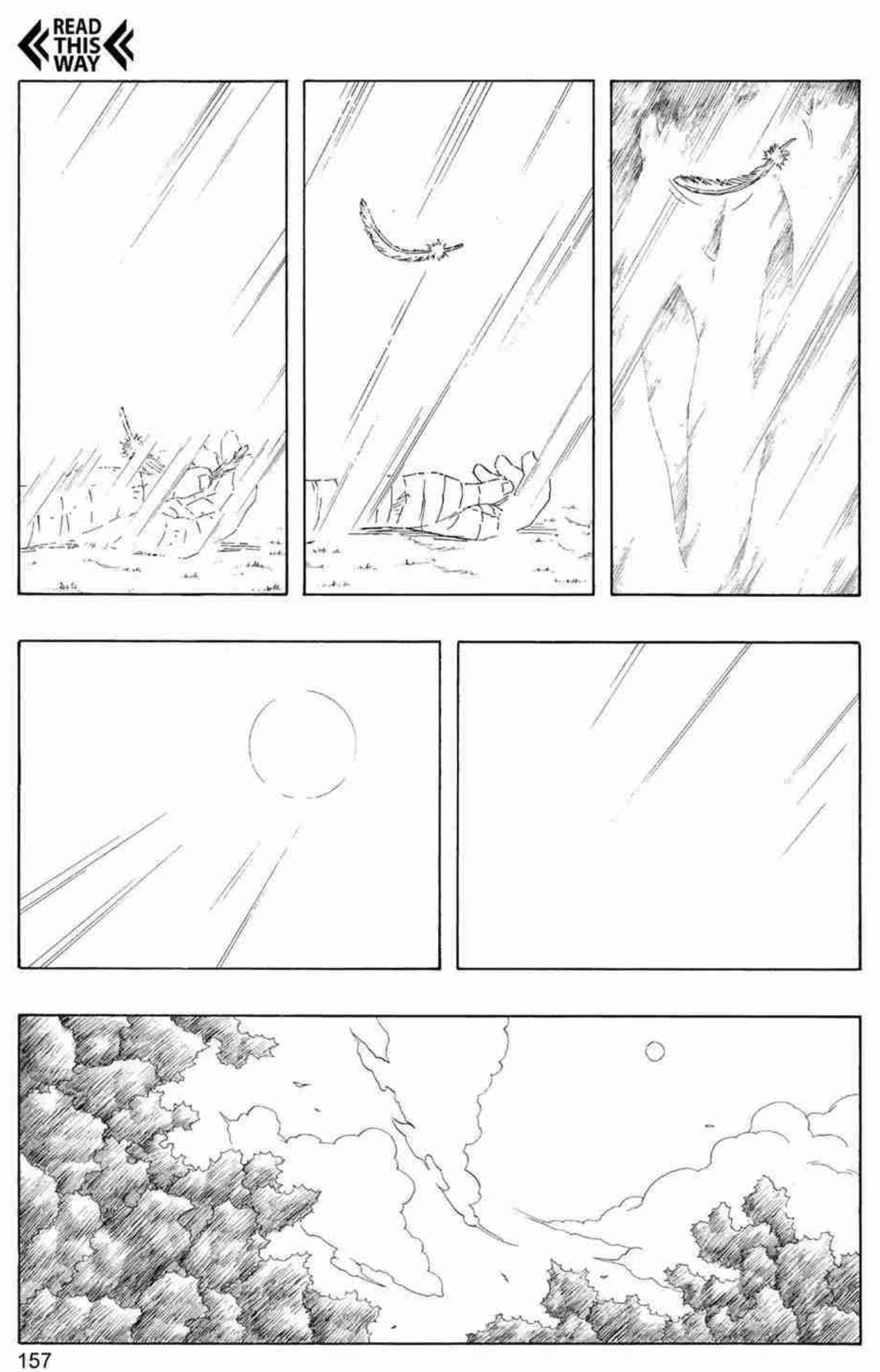
HE'S THE FIRST TO DRIVE ME THIS FAR SINCE KIMIMARO...

HUF

HUF

SLUMP




READ THIS WAY

SHOOM SHOOM

WE'RE CLOSE!

SNIFF SNIFF

LET'S DO IT!!
ALL RIGHT! NOW WE'RE TALKING!

AND WE'RE THREE... THAT'S A ONE-MAN ADVANTAGE.
...TWO ENEMIES LEFT...
IF WE DO IT RIGHT, WE MIGHT GET THIS DONE WITH JUST ONE CONTACT.

HEY!
DON'T FORGET, IT'S FOUR-TO-TWO!

ARF!

ARF!

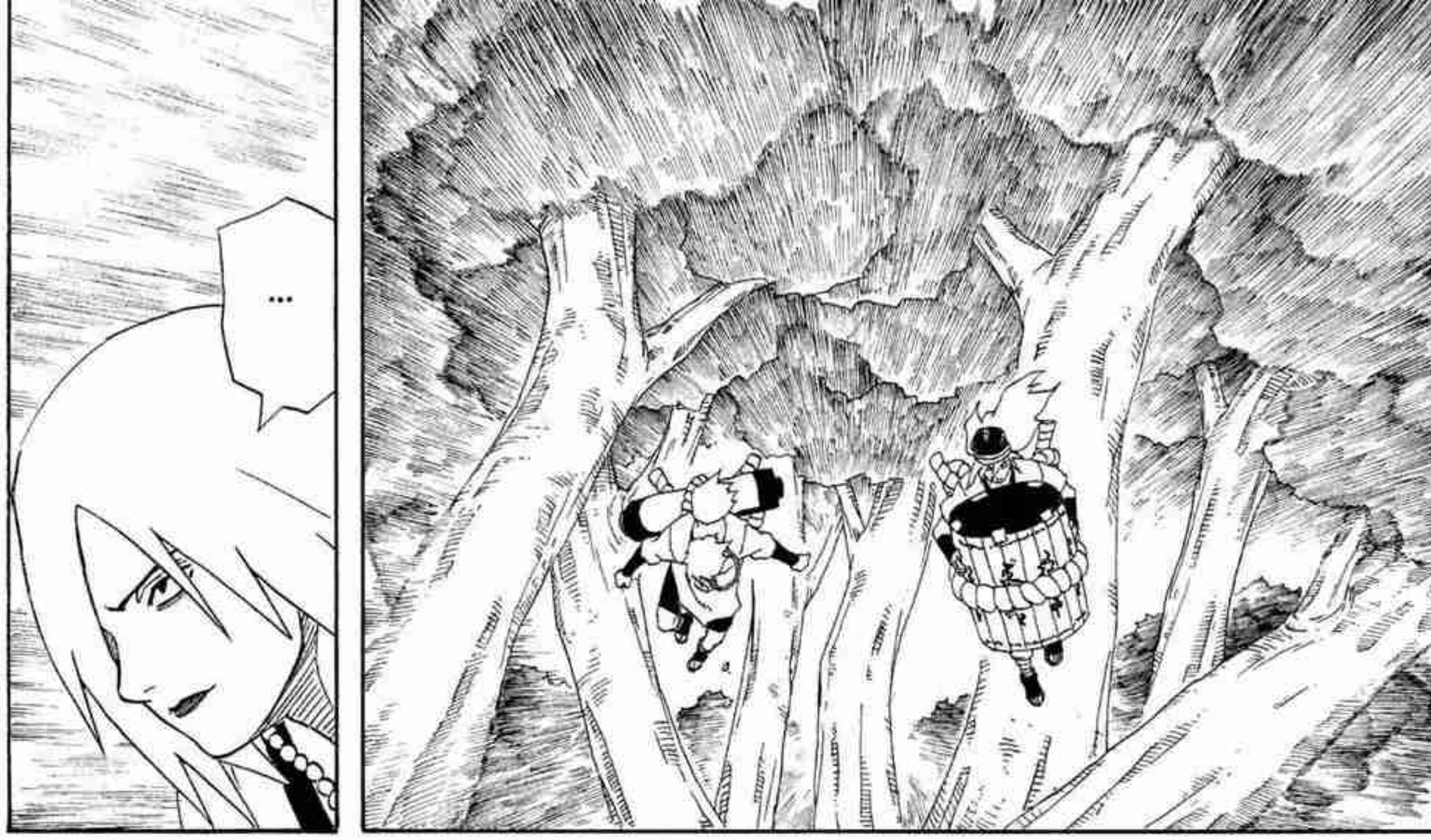
ARF!
THIS TIME, WE TWO'LL TAKE CARE OF 'EM WITH OUR NEW MOVE!!

FOUR AGAINST TWO.
RIGHT, SORRY!

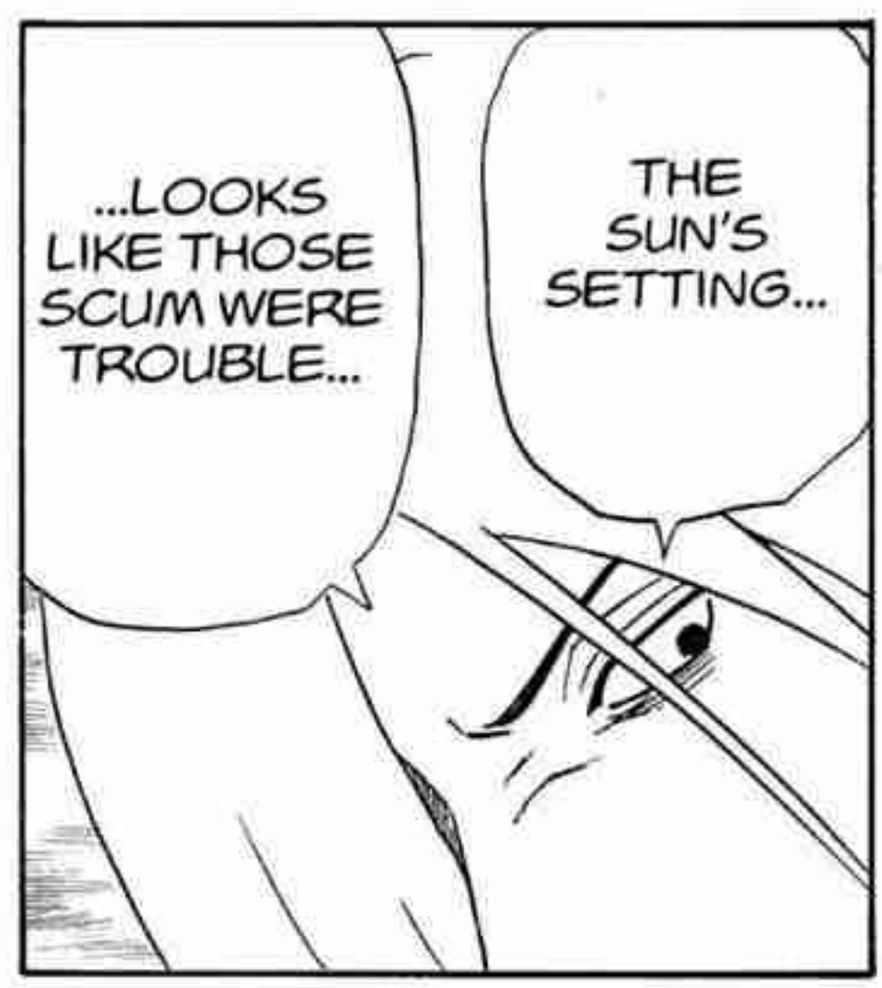
...FIRST, WE TRY MY PLAN.
ALL RIGHT?

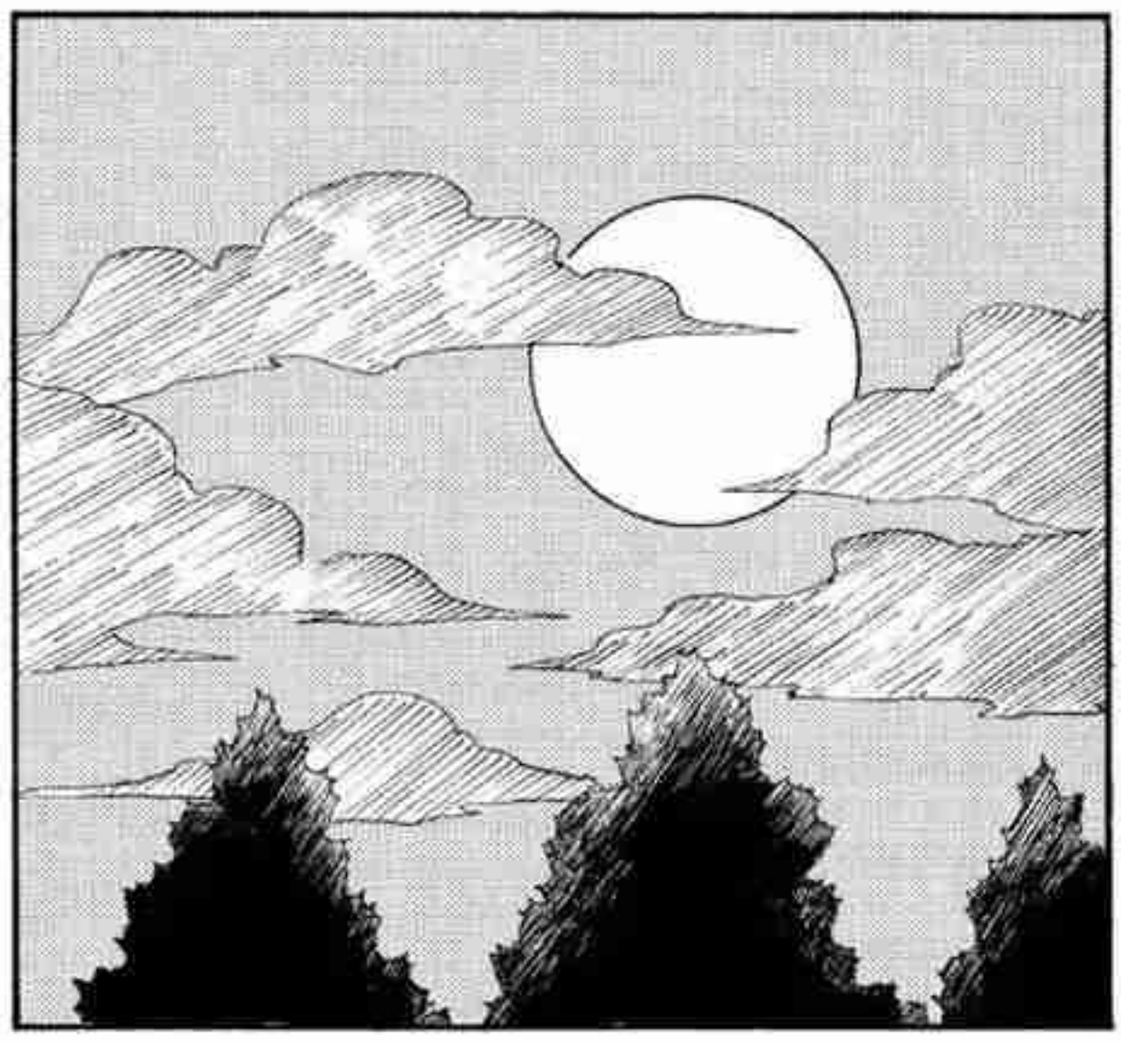
THANKS, BOTH OF YOU, BUT...

I WAS THINKING ABOUT MAKING TONS OF SHADOW DOPPEL-GANGERS!
HEY! WAIT!

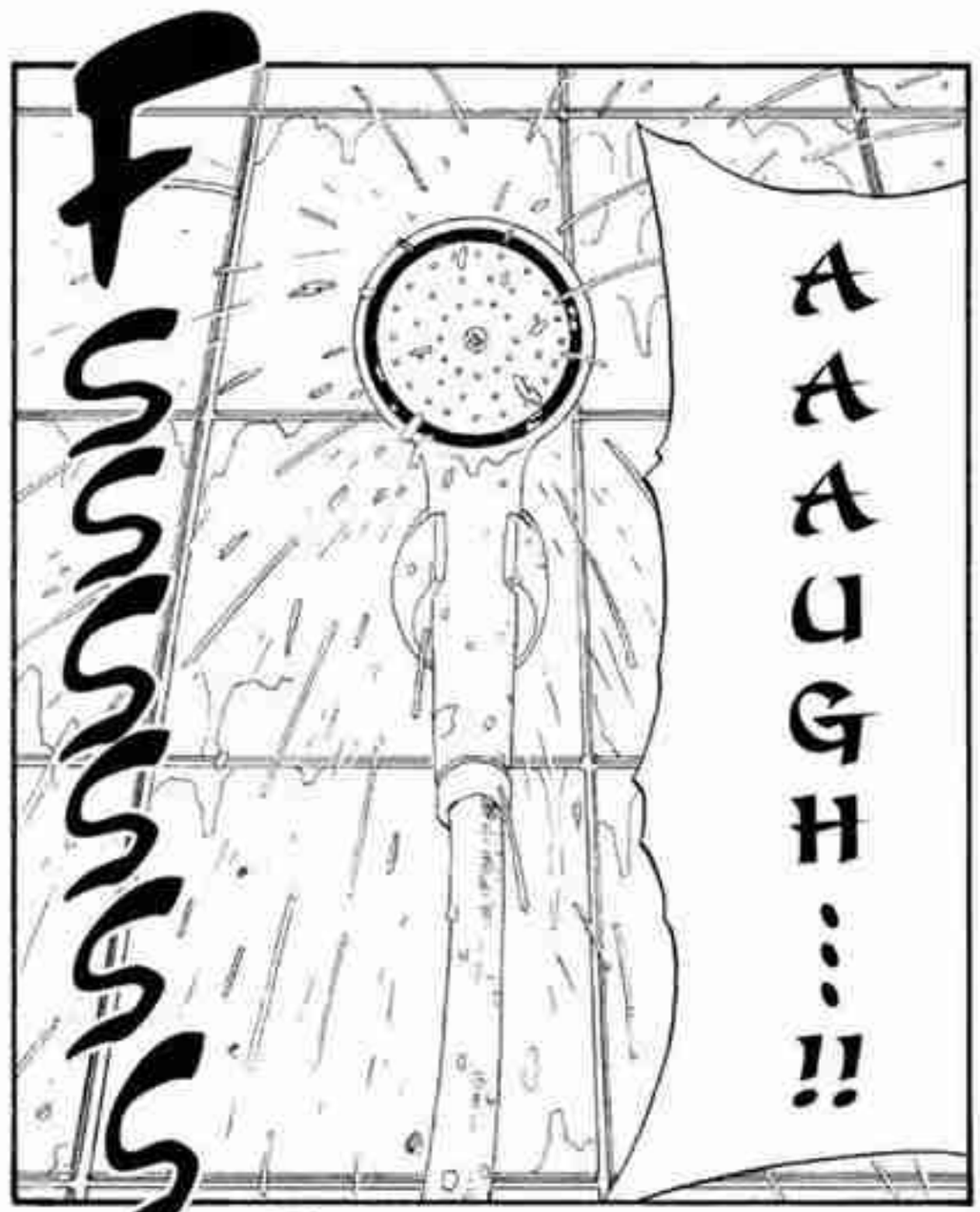

...

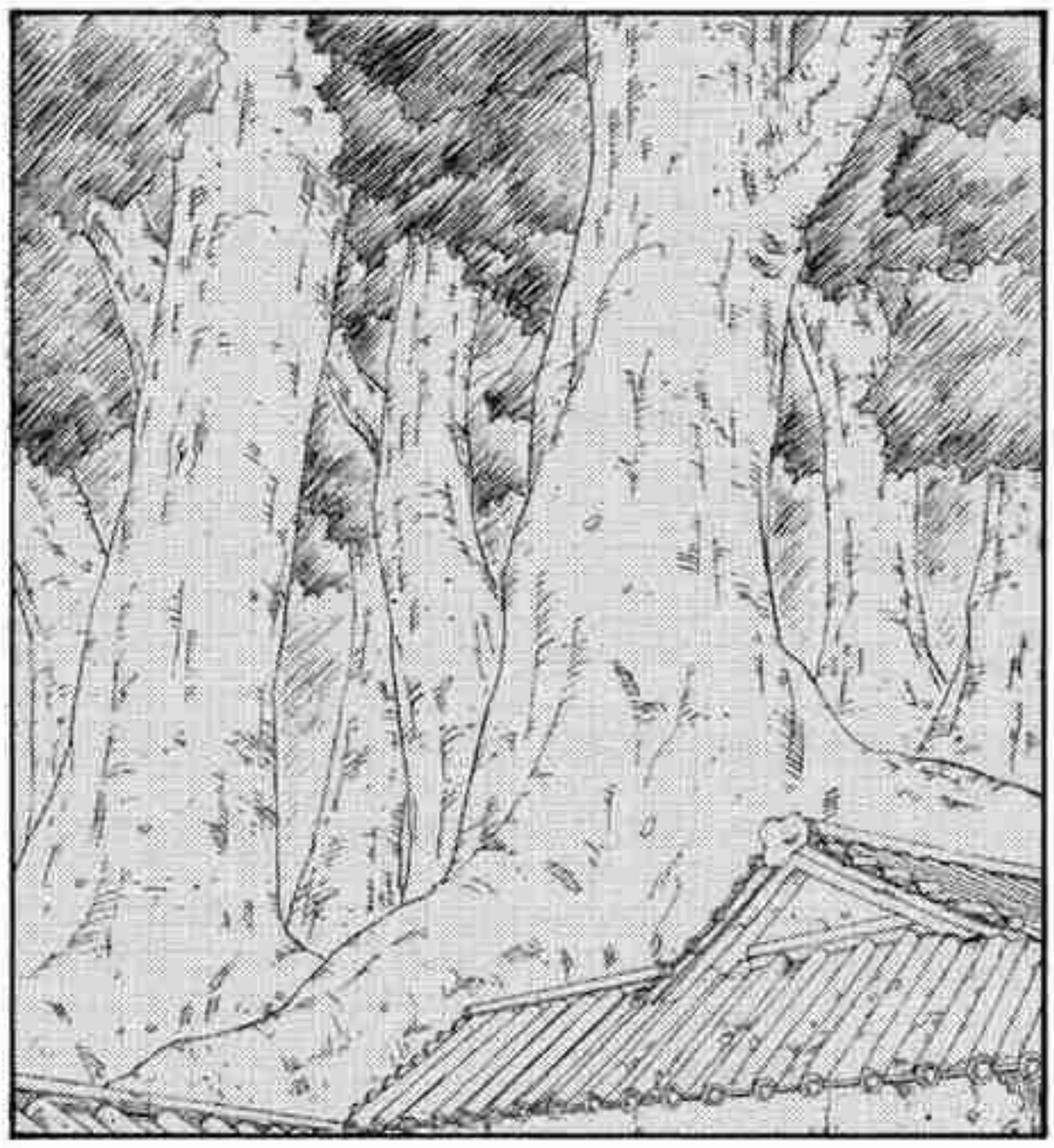
IT'S TAKEN US HALF A DAY TO COVER ONLY A THIRD OF THE DISTANCE.
WHO CARES...?
I'M WORRIED ABOUT LORD OROCHIMARU.


...LOOKS LIKE THOSE SCUM WERE TROUBLE...
THE SUN'S SETTING...



WE WERE TIGHT ON TIME TO BEGIN WITH.
YEAH... THIS ISN'T GOOD.


FSSSSH
AAAUGH...!!



SH
URGH...

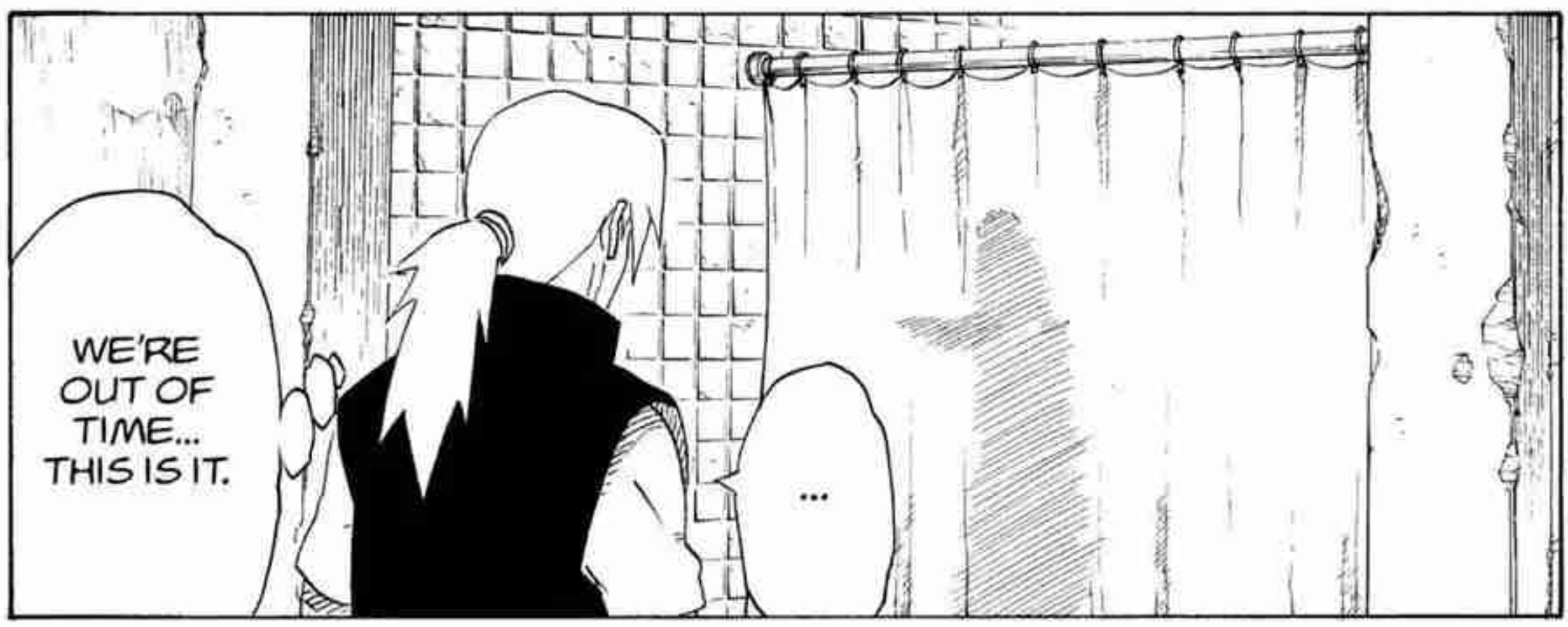
FSSSSH
RIP
RIP
UGH...

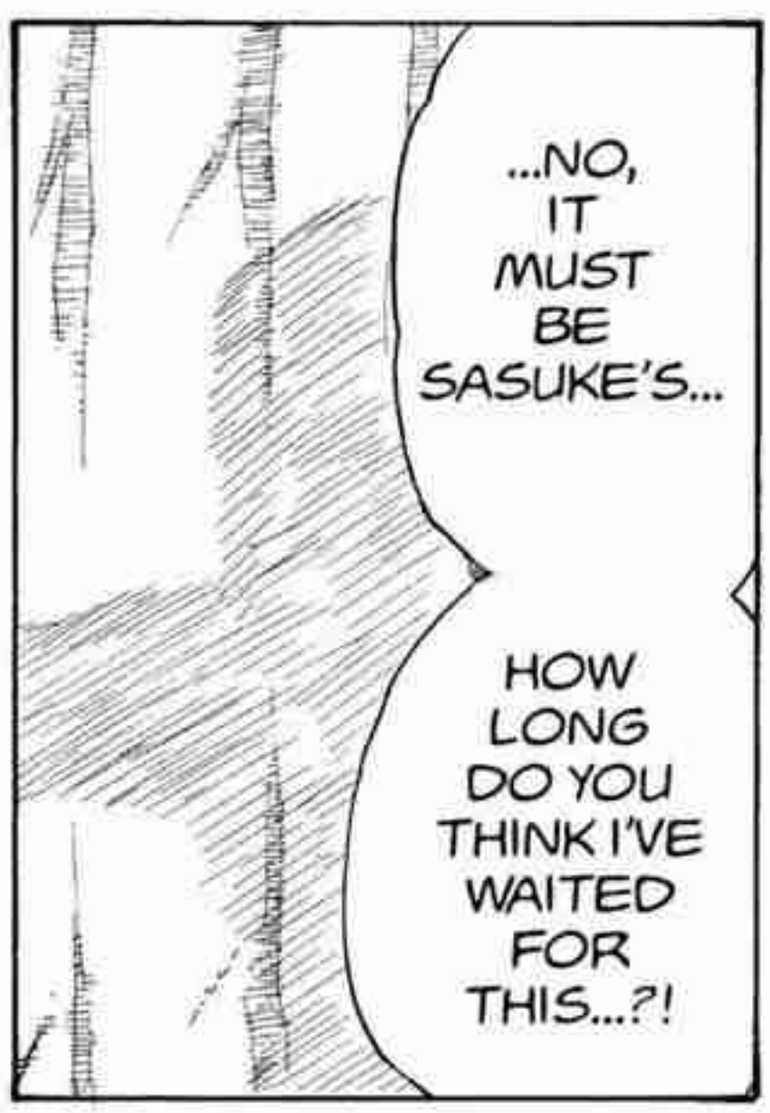
UNH...
UH.

HUF
SASUKE... WHERE IS SASUKE?
HUF

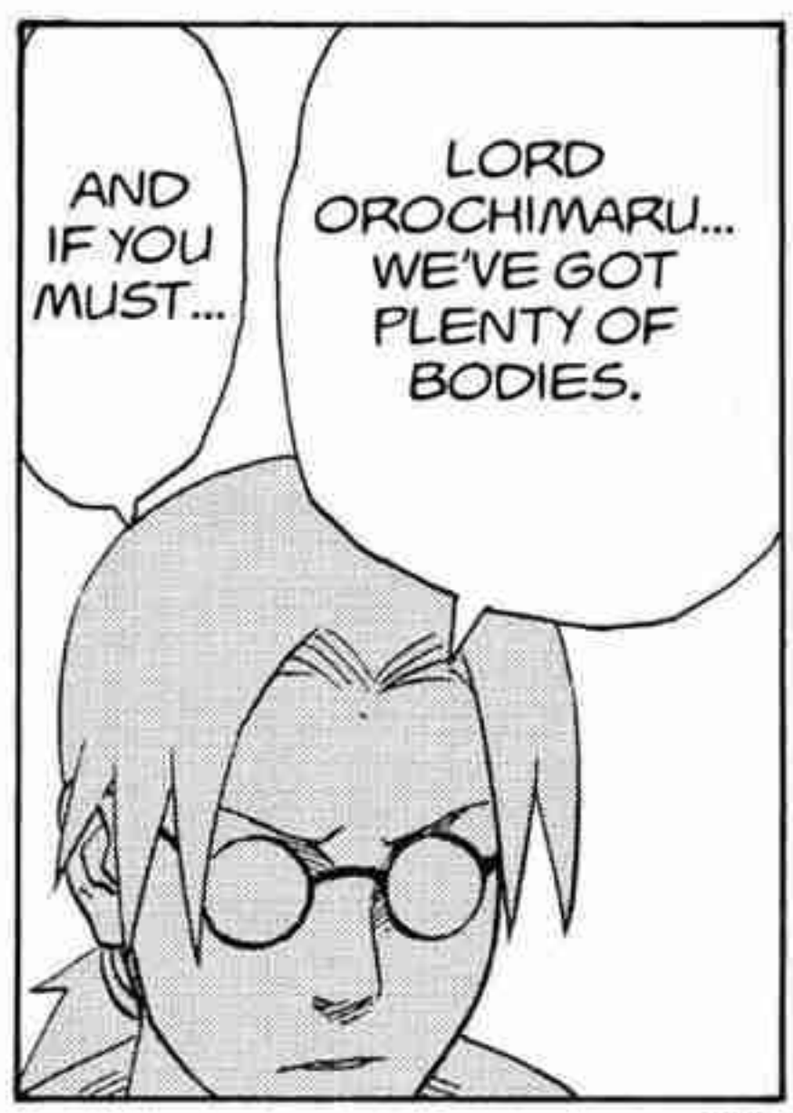
HUF
HUF
HUF
HUF

AAAAH...!
RIP
RIP
RIP


WE'RE OUT OF TIME... THIS IS IT.
...

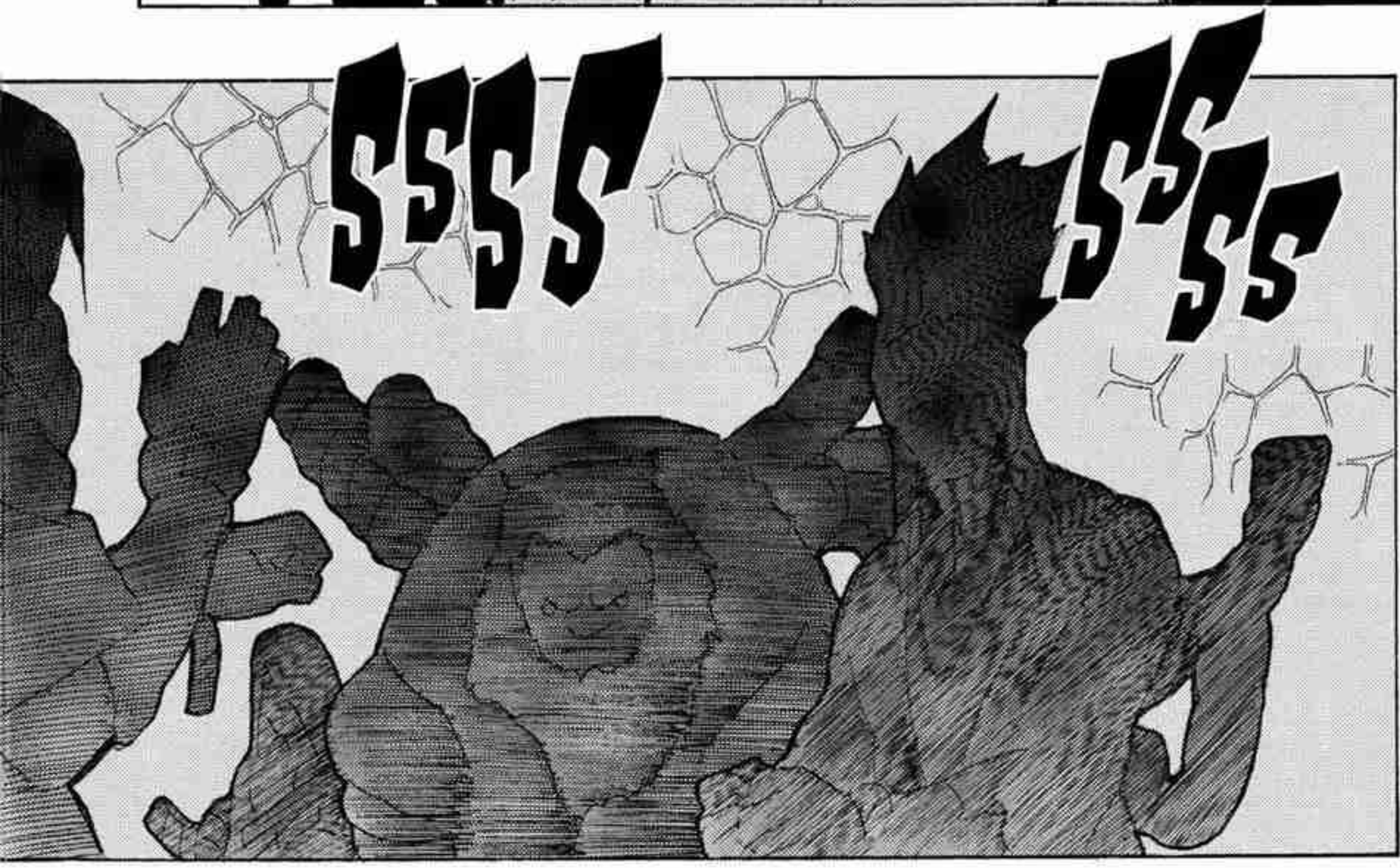

...NO, IT MUST BE SASUKE'S...
HOW LONG DO YOU THINK I'VE WAITED FOR THIS...?!

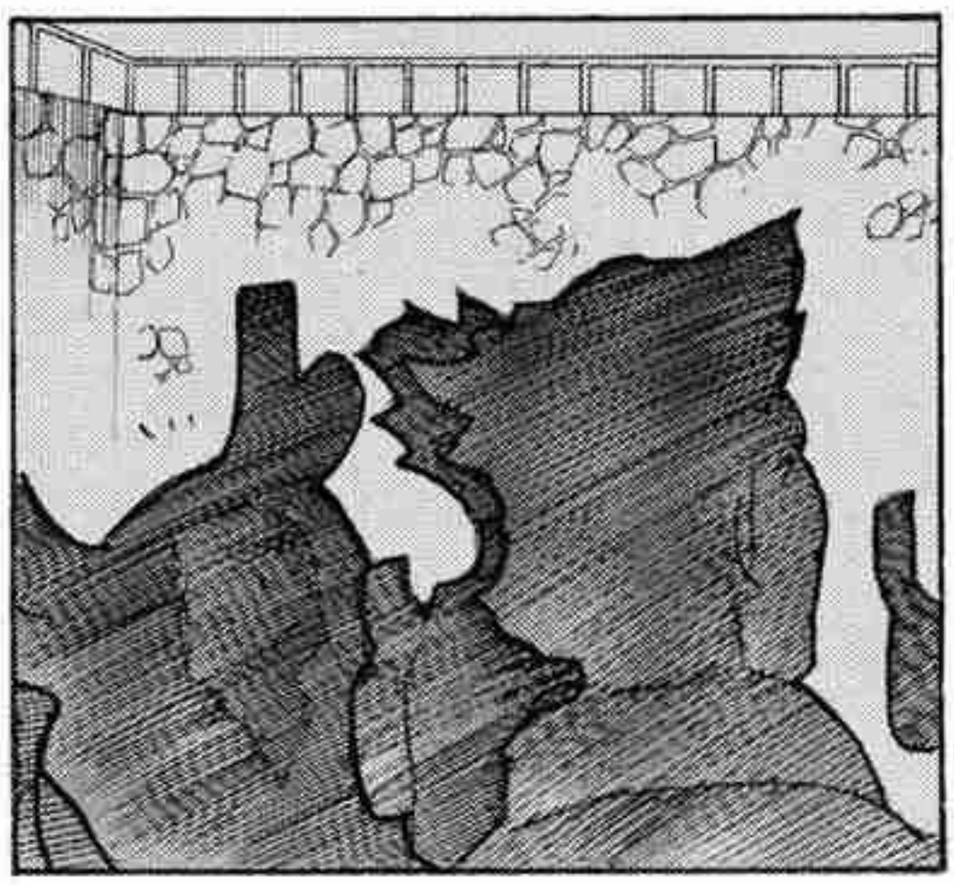
...YOU MAY EVEN TAKE MINE.


AND IF YOU MUST...
LORD OROCHIMARU... WE'VE GOT PLENTY OF BODIES.

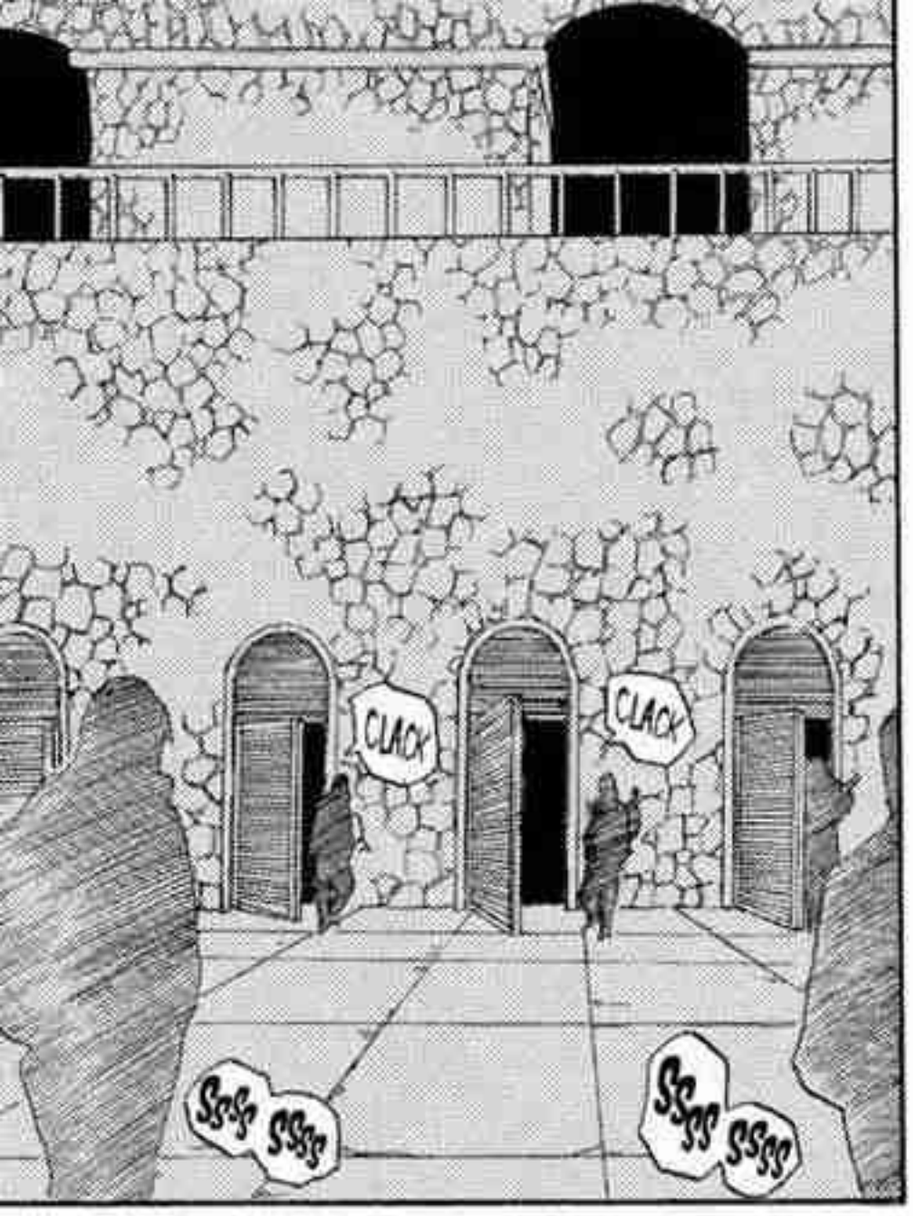
READ THIS WAY
!
THE THIRD HOKAGE'S JUTSU... IT WAS FAR MORE POWERFUL THAN ANTICIPATED.
YOU MUST TRANSFER... OR WOULD YOU RATHER LOSE EVERYTHING?!
THIS IS AN EMERGENCY!!
...
AAAUGH!!
I'M ALSO FOLLOWING UP ON SASUKE'S RETRIEVAL.
TAP
YOU CAN ENTRUST IT TO ME... AND...
I'VE ALREADY ARRANGED FOR THE SELECTING.
WE'VE GOT TO USE KIMIMARO...!

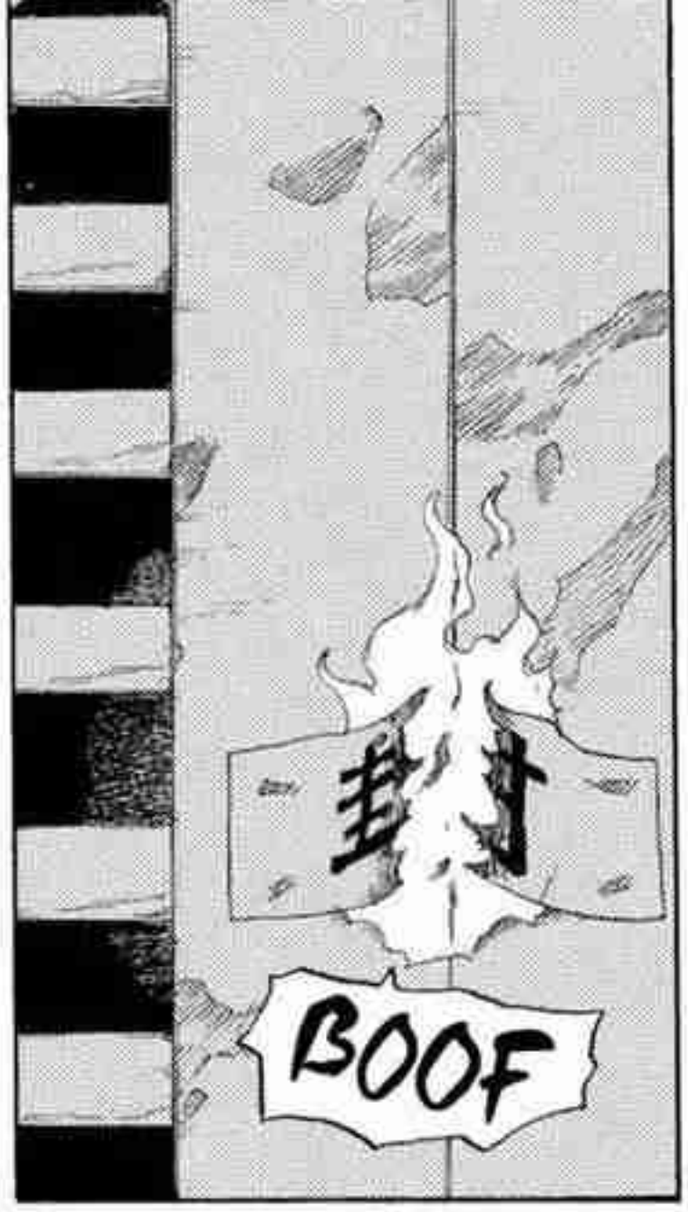
RIP
CURSE YOU, THIRD LORD...!

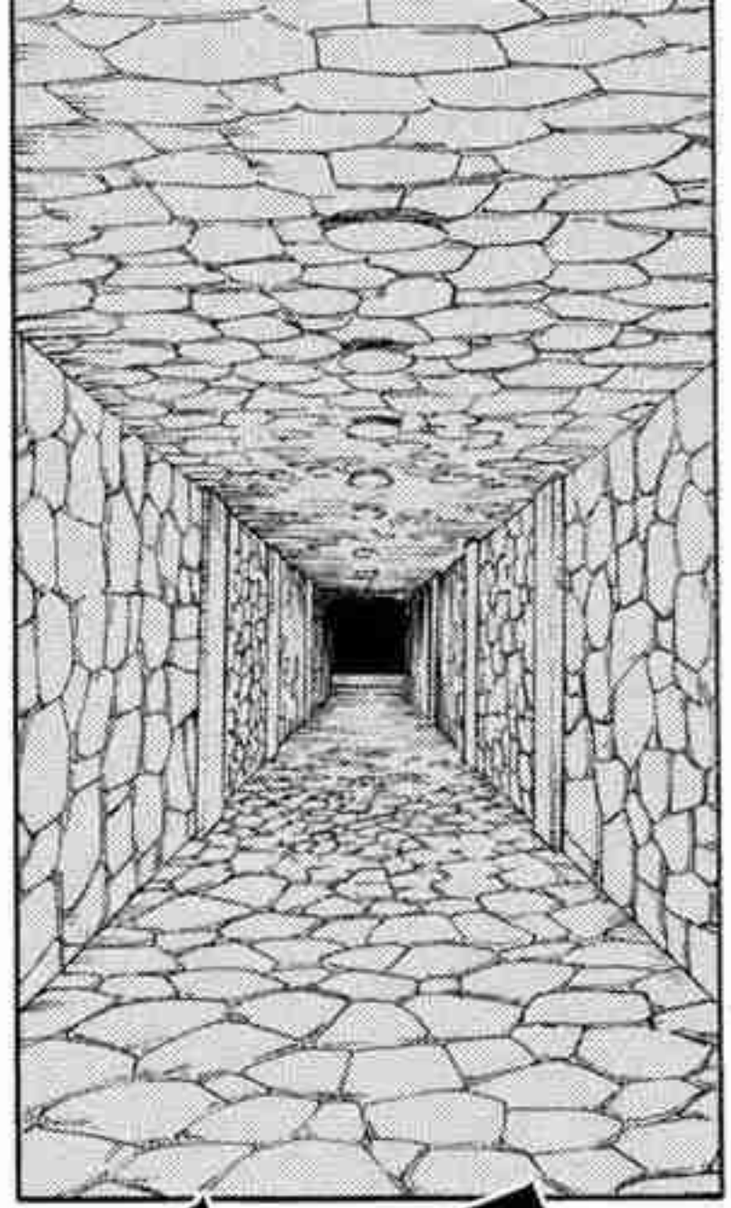

SSSS
SSSS

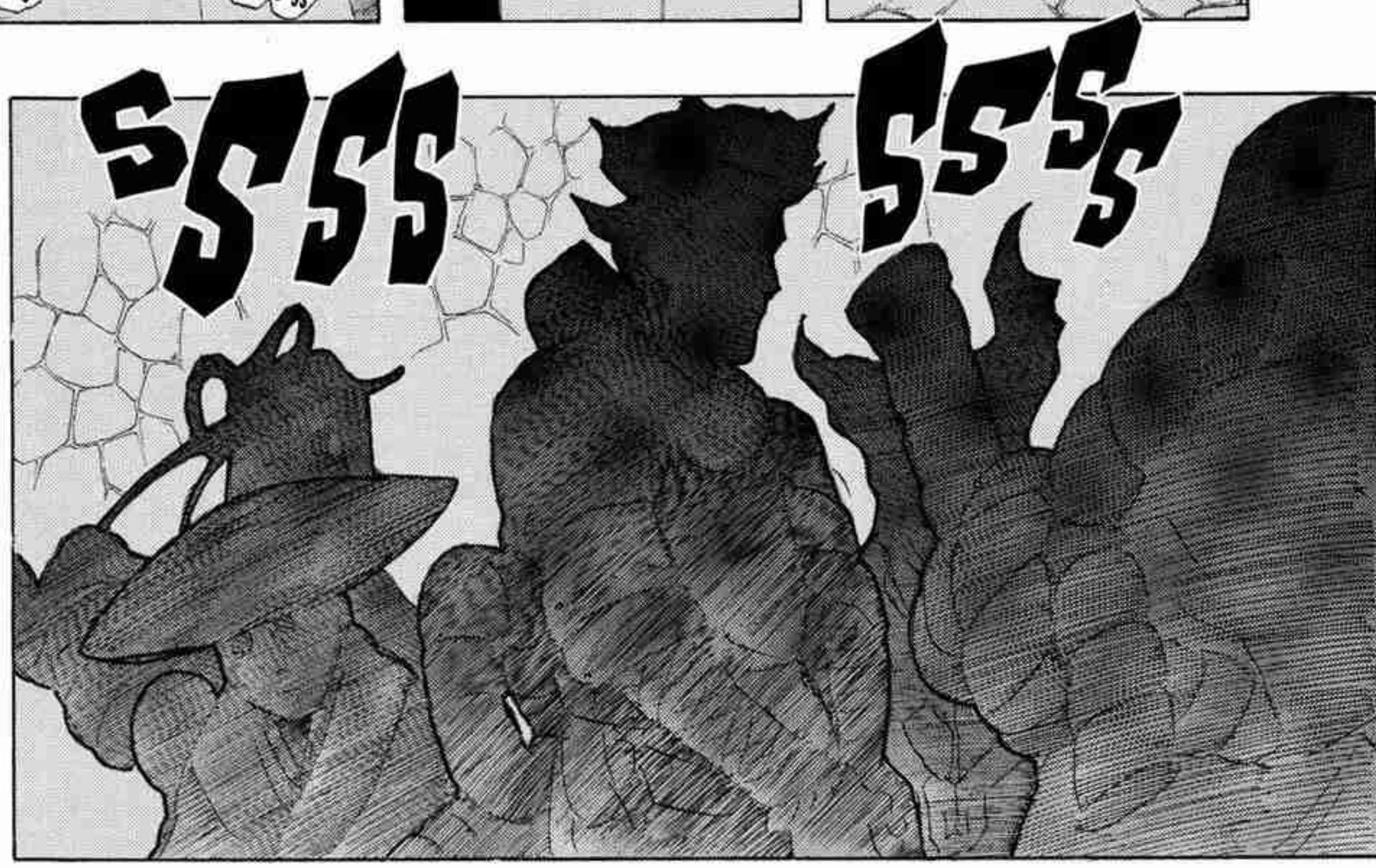


LISTEN CLOSELY...


CLACK
CLACK
SSSS SSSS
SSSS SSSS


封
BOOF




SSSS
SSSS

...AND THE WINNER WILL BE FREED.
YOU ARE TO FIGHT TO THE DEATH...

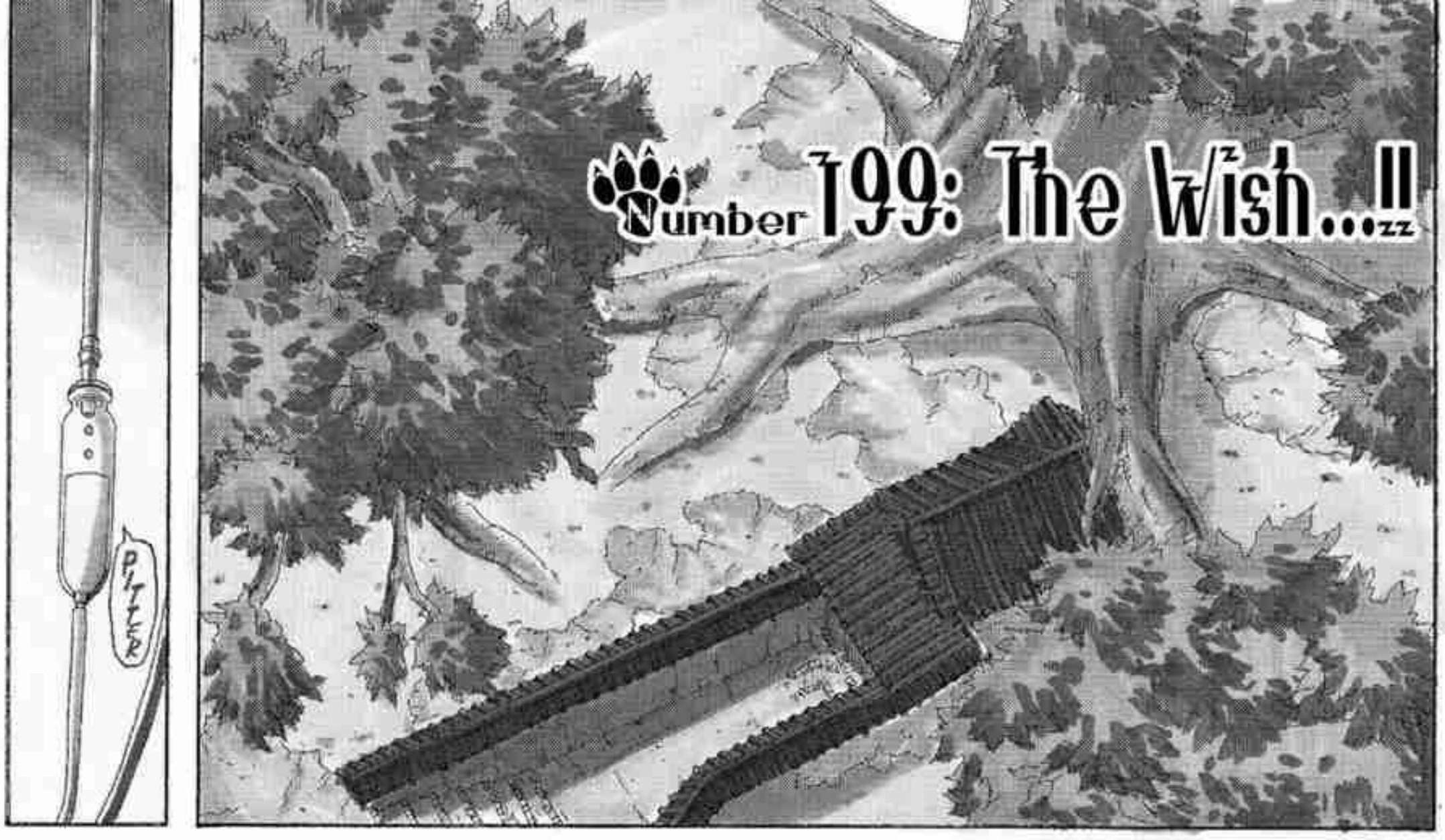
RDEEEEE!!

## KISHIMOTO MASASHI'S REJECT MANGA SPECIAL

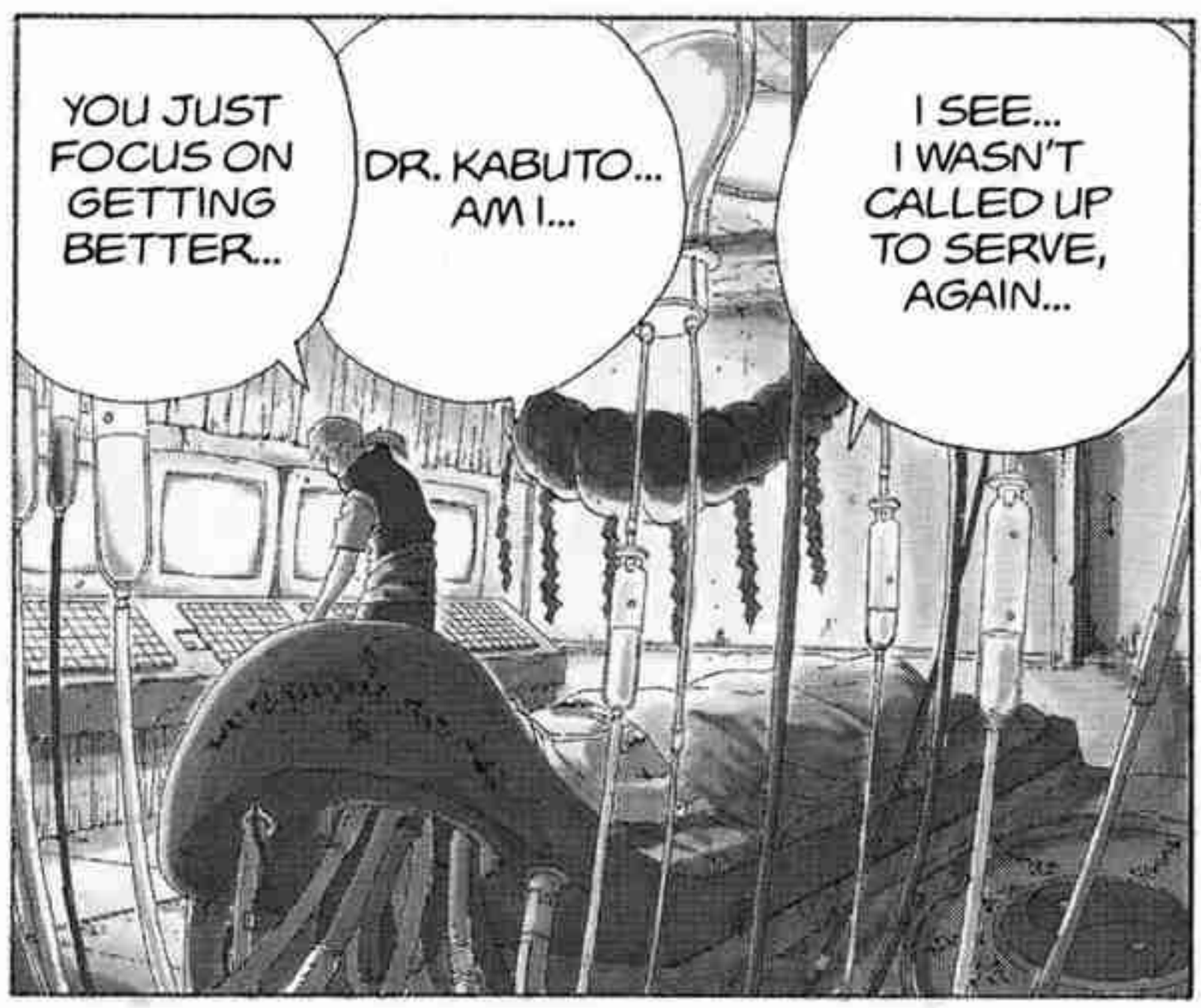
THE TWO-PAGE SPREAD ABOVE WAS WHAT WAS ACTUALLY PRINTED IN WEEKLY SHONEN JUMP, BUT...

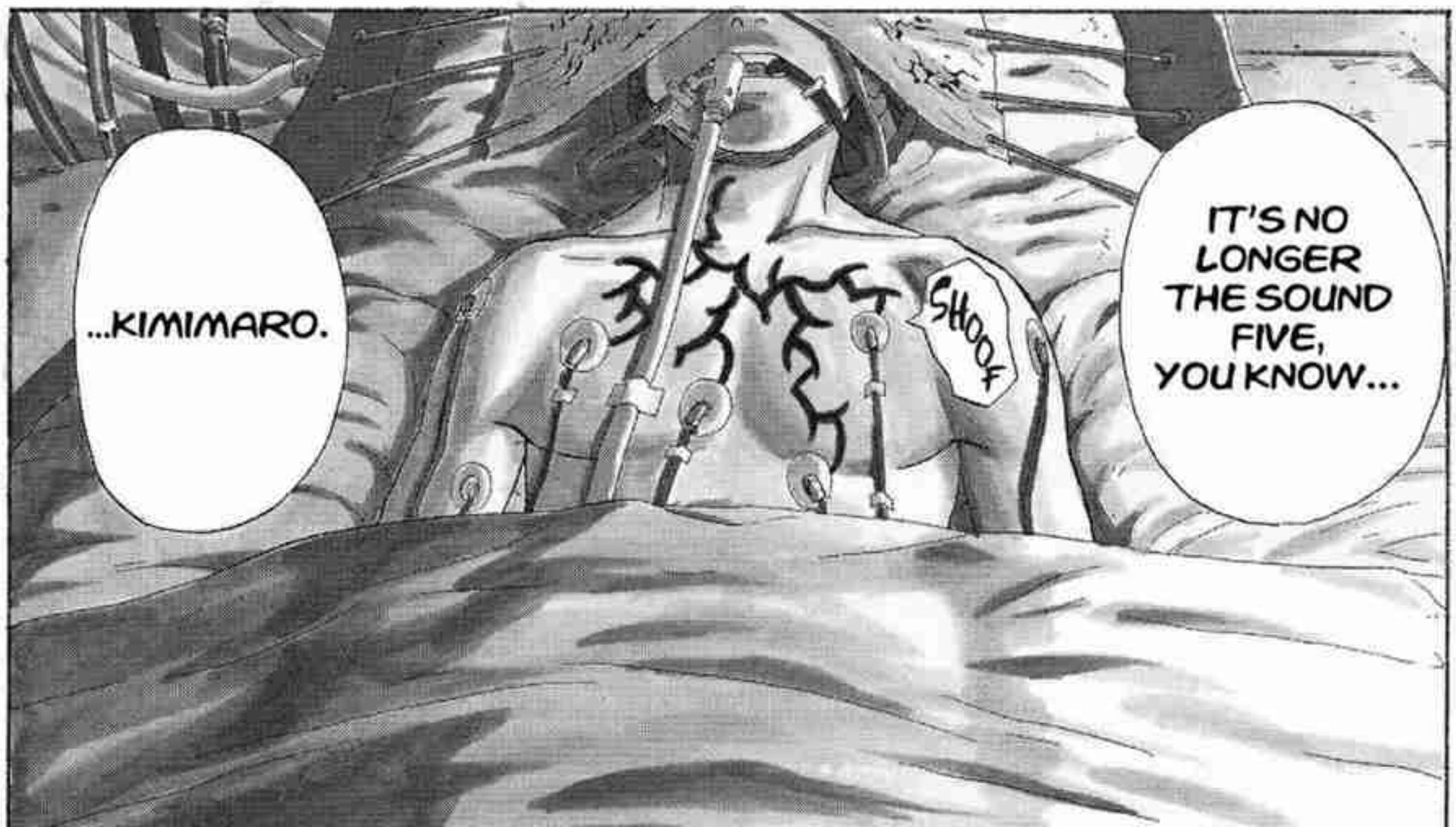
...WHEN MY TWIN BROTHER SAW IT, HE PESTERED ME SO MUCH WITH "IT'S SO UNCOOL," "BORING," "DO-OVER" THAT EVEN THOUGH THERE WASN'T MUCH TIME, I DID REVISE AND REDRAW THE TWO PAGES FOR THIS GRAPHIC NOVEL EDITION.

SO, DEAR READERS, CAN YOU GUESS WHICH PAGES WERE REPLACED...?




# Number 199: The Wish...!!



# THE RESULTS OF THE FOURTH CHARACTER AND FIRST JUTSU POPULARITY SURVEY!! CONDUCTED IN JAPAN.

## SURVEY RESULTS

| | |
|---|---|
| 11TH PLACE/NINJA CENTERFOLD | 1,013 VOTES |
| 12TH PLACE/1000 YEARS OF DEATH | 909 VOTES |
| 13TH PLACE/CRESCENT MOON DANCE | 864 VOTES |
| 14TH PLACE/BARRAGE OF LIONS | 700 VOTES |
| 15TH PLACE/UZUMAKI NARUTO BARRAGE | 666 VOTES |
| 16TH PLACE/THE COFFIN OF CRUSHING SAND | 641 VOTES |
| 17TH PLACE/LOTUS | 610 VOTES |
| 18TH PLACE/TSUKUYOMI | 597 VOTES |
| 19TH PLACE/IMPLODING SAND FUNERAL | 566 VOTES |
| 20TH PLACE/THE NINJA HAREM | 493 VOTES |

| | |
|---|---|
| 13TH PLACE/TSUNADE | 1,058 VOTES |
| 14TH PLACE/HAKU | 941 VOTES |
| 15TH PLACE/TEMARI | 930 VOTES |
| 16TH PLACE/GEKKO HAYATE | 876 VOTES |
| 17TH PLACE/INUZUKA KIBA | 599 VOTES |
| 18TH PLACE/MIGHT GUY | 567 VOTES |
| 19TH PLACE/SHIRANUI GENMA | 541 VOTES |
| 20TH PLACE/FOURTH HOKAGE | 529 VOTES |
| 21ST PLACE/AKIMICHI CHOJI | 399 VOTES |
| 22ND PLACE/OROCHIMARU | 345 VOTES |
| 23RD PLACE/YAMANAKA INO | 286 VOTES |
| 24TH PLACE/AKAMARU | 271 VOTES |
| 25TH PLACE/ABURAME SHINO | 253 VOTES |
| 26TH PLACE/SARUTOBI ASUMA YAKUSHI KABUTO | 237 VOTES |
| 28TH PLACE/MOMOCHI ZABUZA | 207 VOTES |
| 29TH PLACE/TENTEN | 135 VOTES |
| 30TH PLACE/MITARASHI ANKO | 120 VOTES |

# Number 199: The Wish...!!

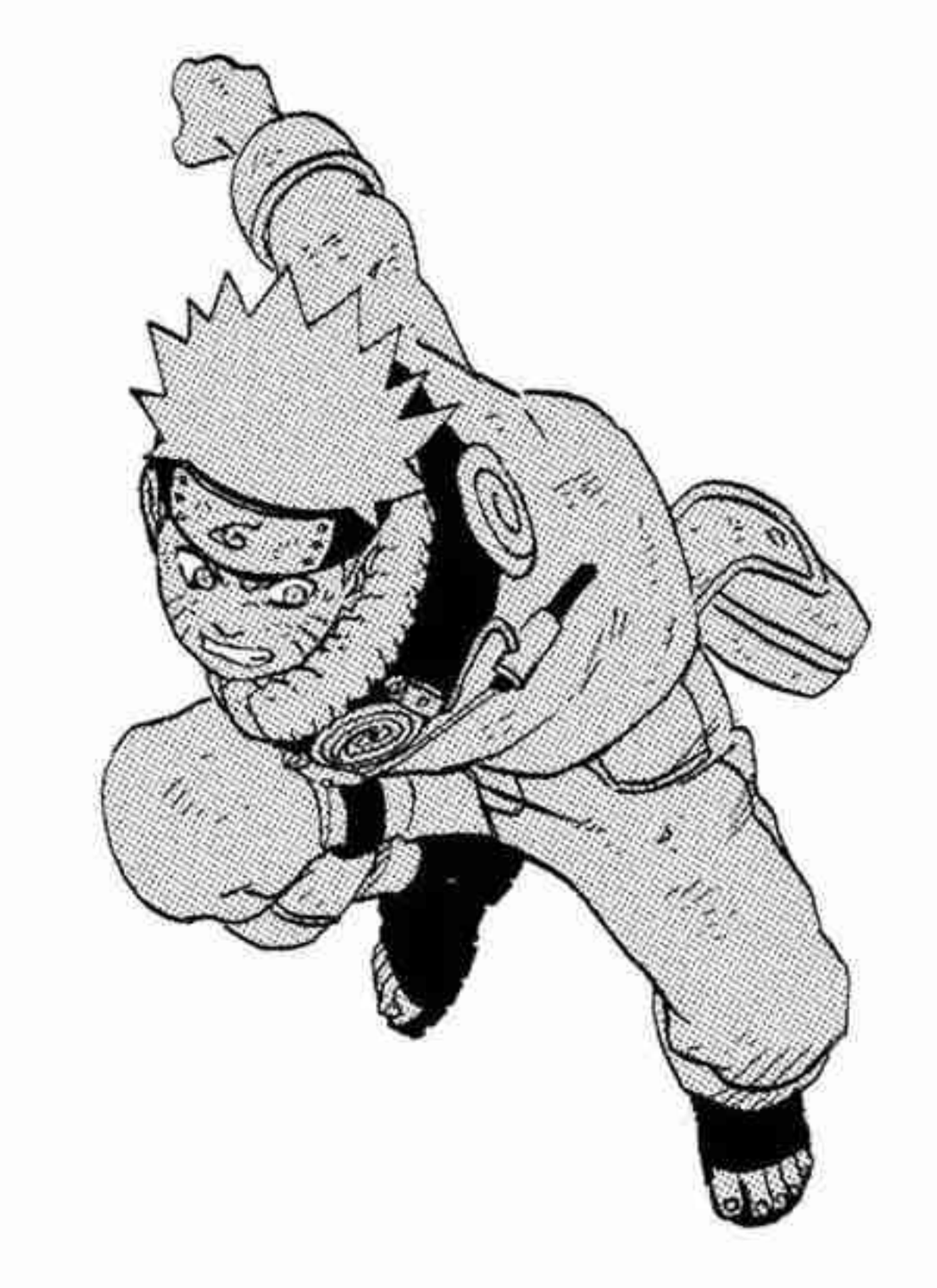
## THE JUTSU POPULARITY

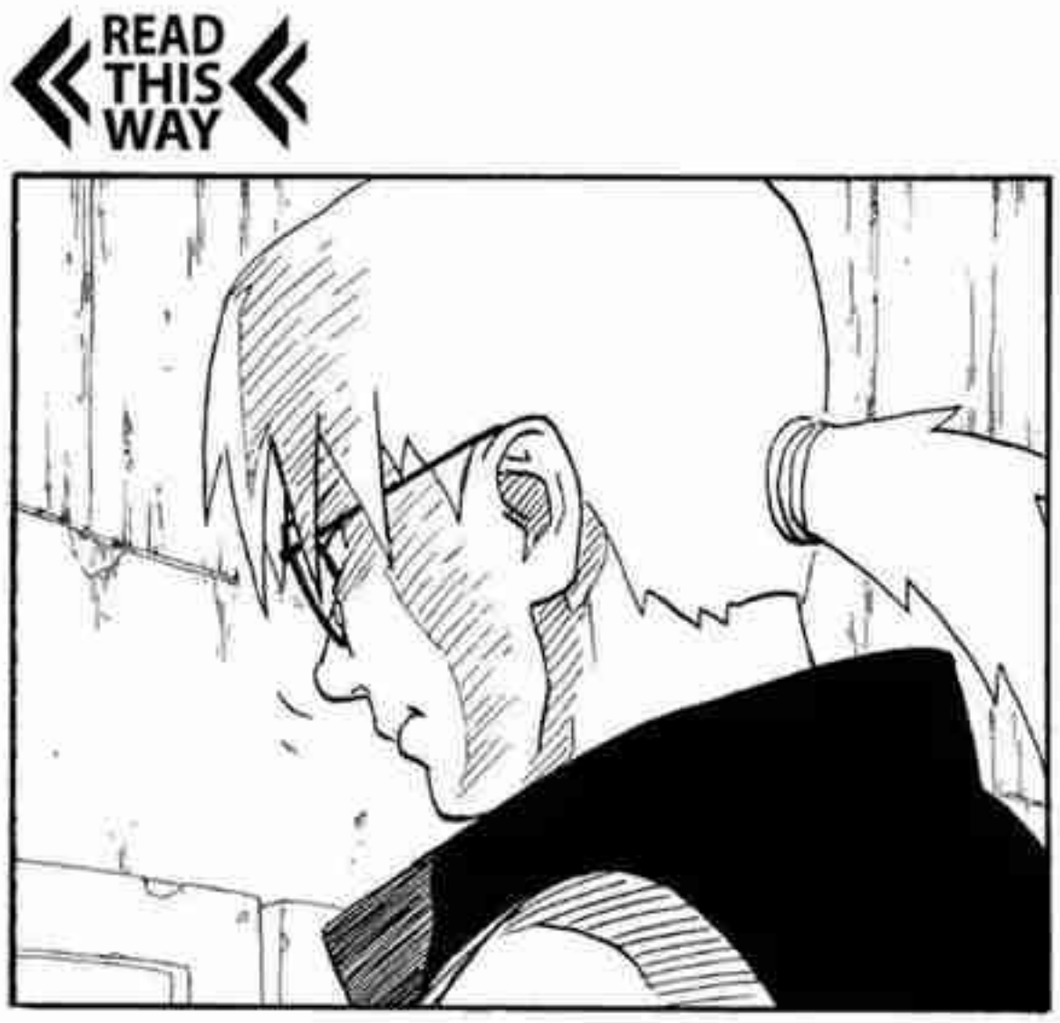
| | |
|---|---|
| 1ST PLACE/RASENGAN | 5,128 VOTES |
| 2ND PLACE/LIGHTNING BLADE | 4,395 VOTES |
| 3RD PLACE/CHIDORI | 3,216 VOTES |
| 4TH PLACE/SHADOW POSSESSION | 3,160 VOTES |
| 5TH PLACE/SUMMONING | 1,897 VOTES |
| 6TH PLACE/BYAKUGAN | 1,728 VOTES |
| 7TH PLACE/SHARINGAN | 1,639 VOTES |
| 8TH PLACE/SHADOW DOPPELGANGER | 1,415 VOTES |
| 9TH PLACE/REVERSE LOTUS | 1,400 VOTES |
| 10TH PLACE/8 TRIGRAMS 64 PALMS | 1,162 VOTES |

## THE REST OF THE CHARACTER POPULARITY SURVEY RESULTS

| | |
|---|---|
| 2ND PLACE/HATAKE KAKASHI | 6,560 VOTES |
| 3RD PLACE/UCHIHA SASUKE | 4,843 VOTES |
| 4TH PLACE/NARA SHIKAMARU | 4,700 VOTES |
| 5TH PLACE/UMINO IRUKA | 3,855 VOTES |
| 6TH PLACE/HYUGA NEJI | 3,222 VOTES |
| 7TH PLACE/ROCK LEE | 2,522 VOTES |
| 8TH PLACE/GAARA | 1,868 VOTES |
| 9TH PLACE/UCHIHA ITACHI | 1,619 VOTES |
| 10TH PLACE/HARUNO SAKURA | 1,348 VOTES |
| 11TH PLACE/JIRAIYA | 1,235 VOTES |
| 12TH PLACE/HYUGA HINATA | 1,182 VOTES |

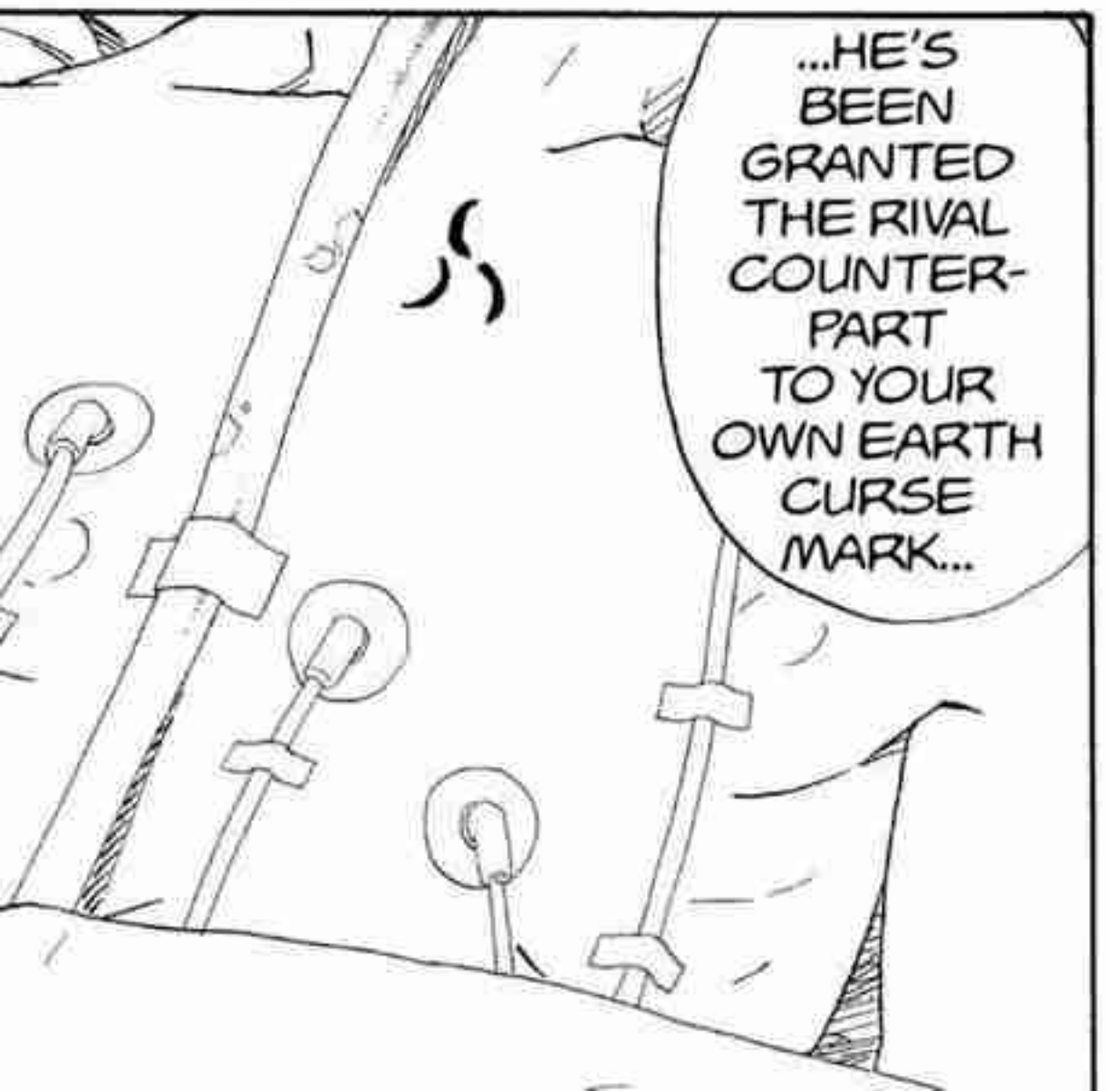
NARUTO
-ナルト-




READ THIS WAY

...

I... CAN STILL...
SHRIVEL
YOUR SUCCESSOR HAS BEEN FOUND...

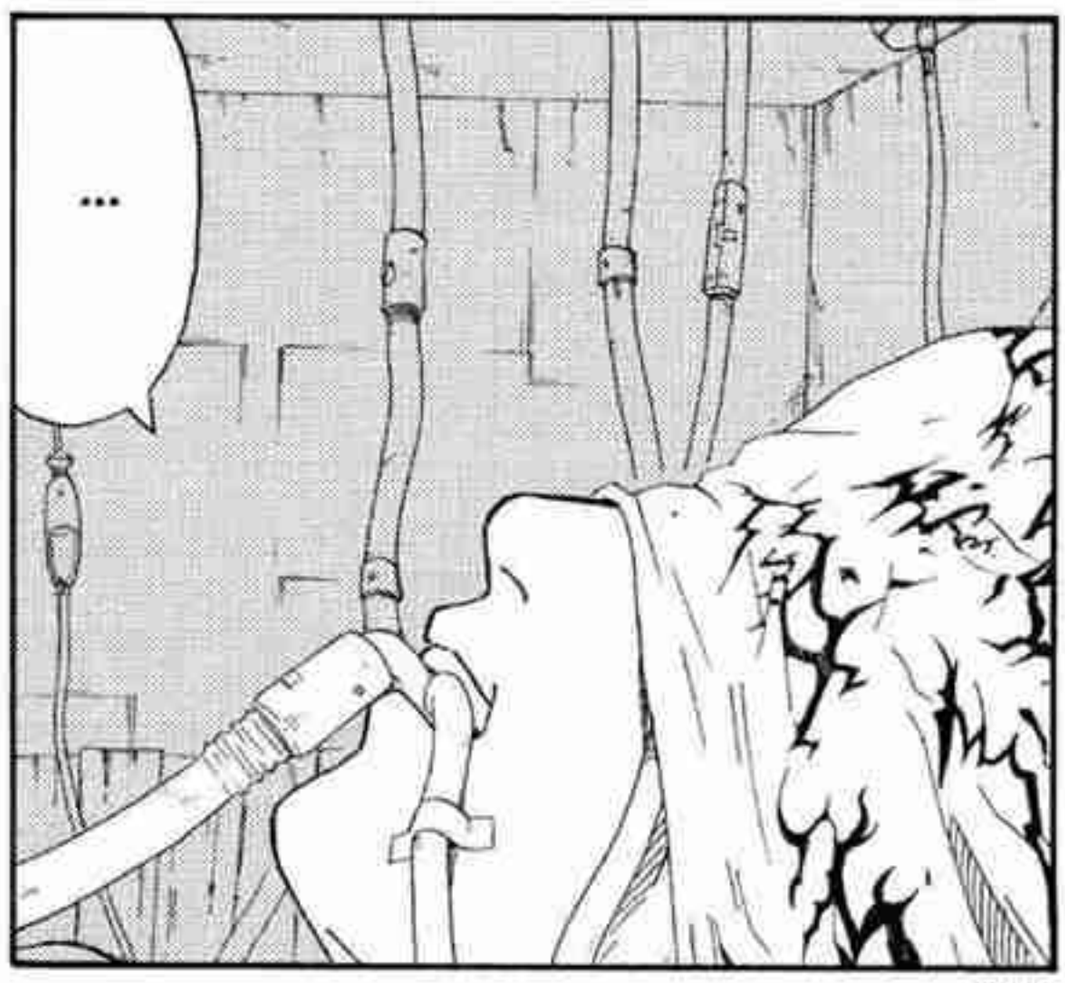

...HE'S BEEN GRANTED THE RIVAL COUNTER-PART TO YOUR OWN EARTH CURSE MARK...

...AND...

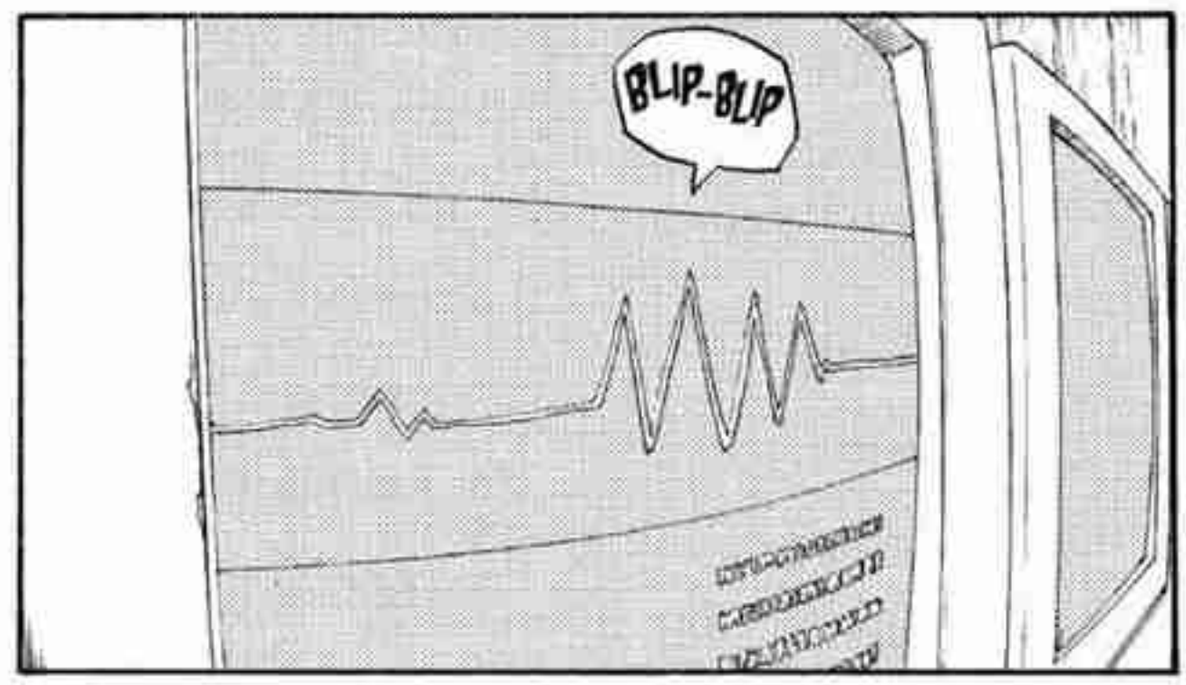
...

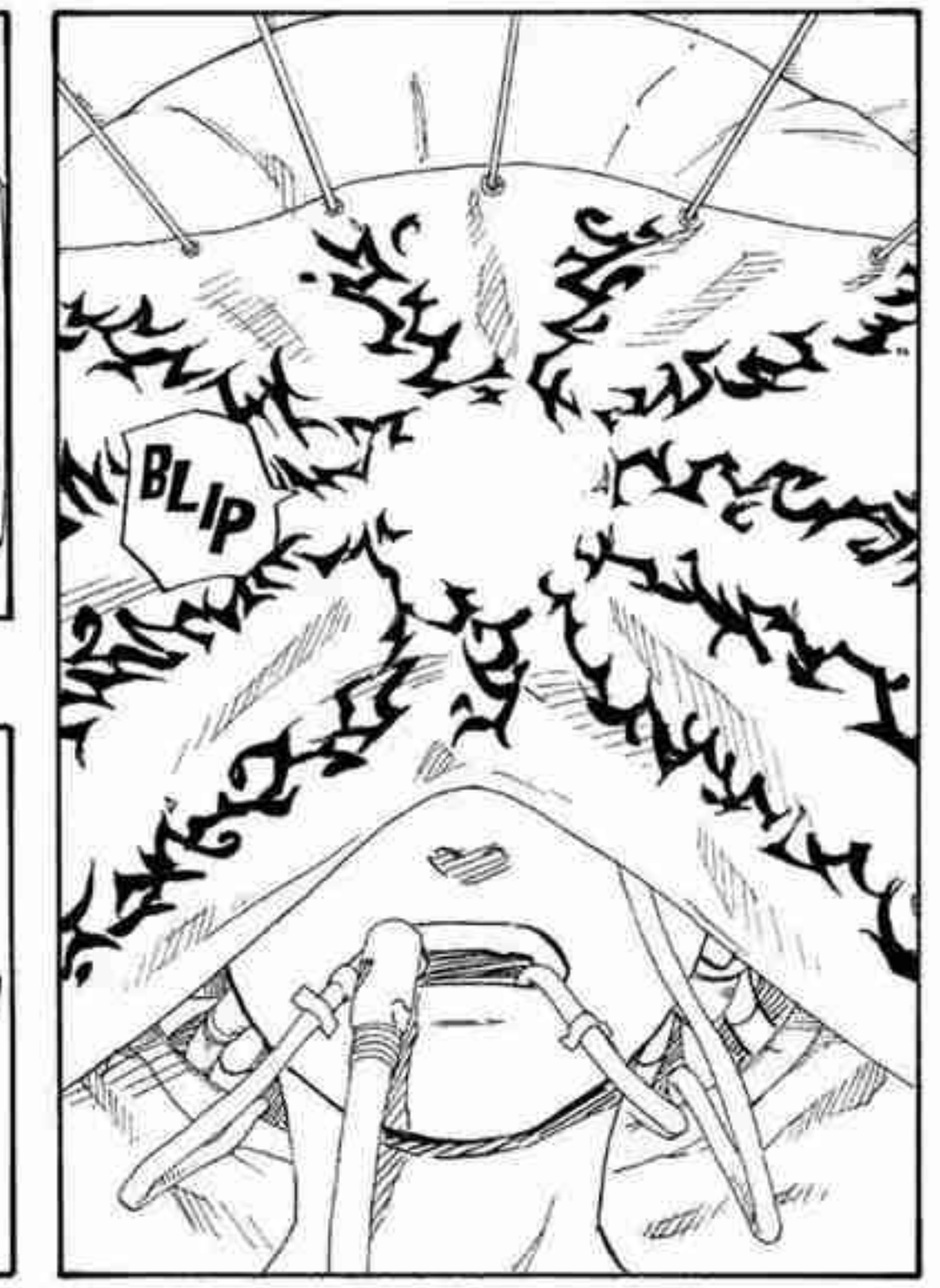
...THE HEAVEN CURSE MARK.

HE EVEN CARRIES A KEKKEI GENKAI JUST LIKE YOU.



READ
THIS
WAY


BLIP-BLIP

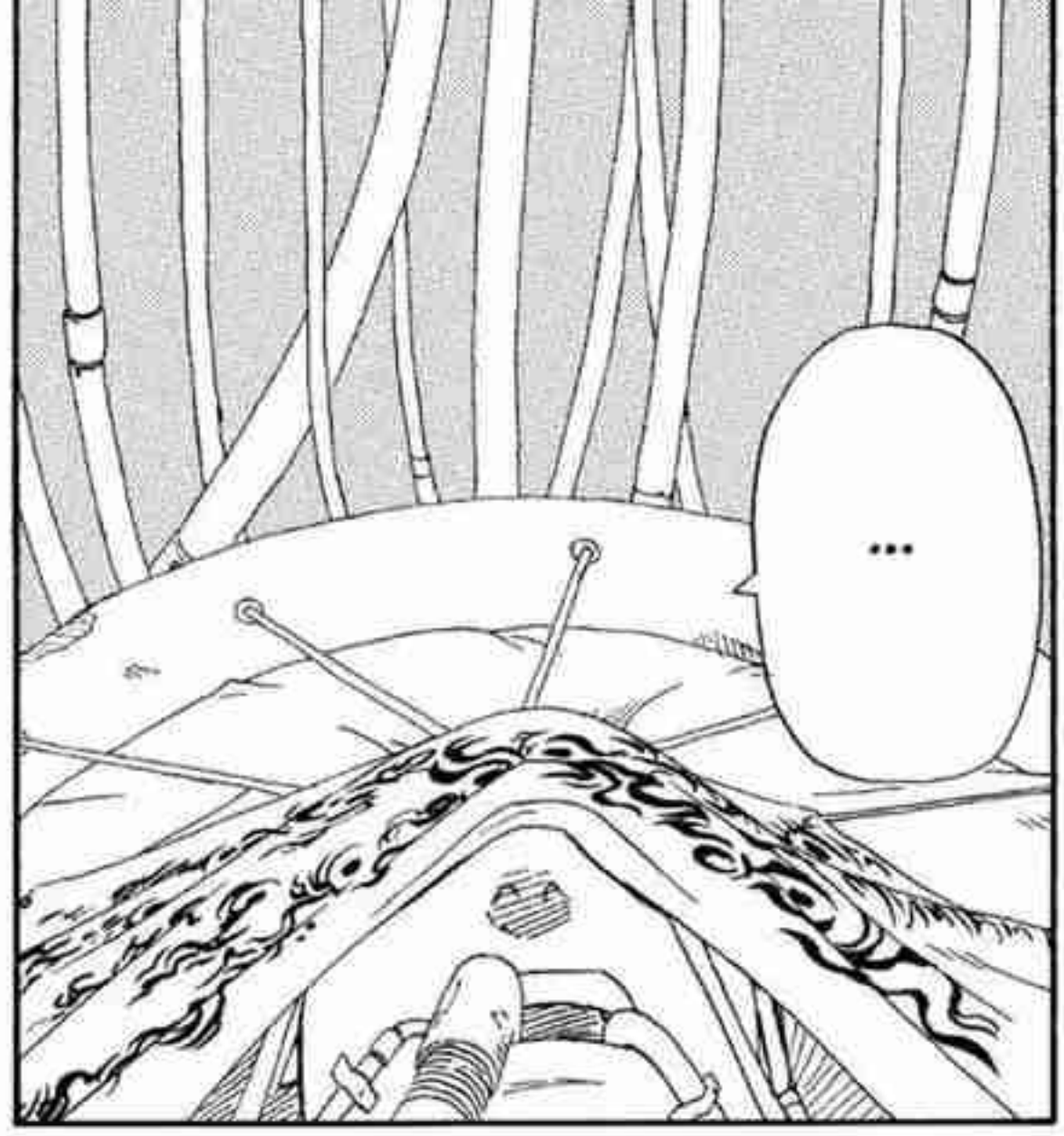

BLIP

YOU MUSTN'T GET TOO WORKED UP.
...WHAT'S THE MATTER?!

UNH...
DRIBBLE...

GAH
URGH...

HOW MUCH LONGER DO I HAVE...?
...

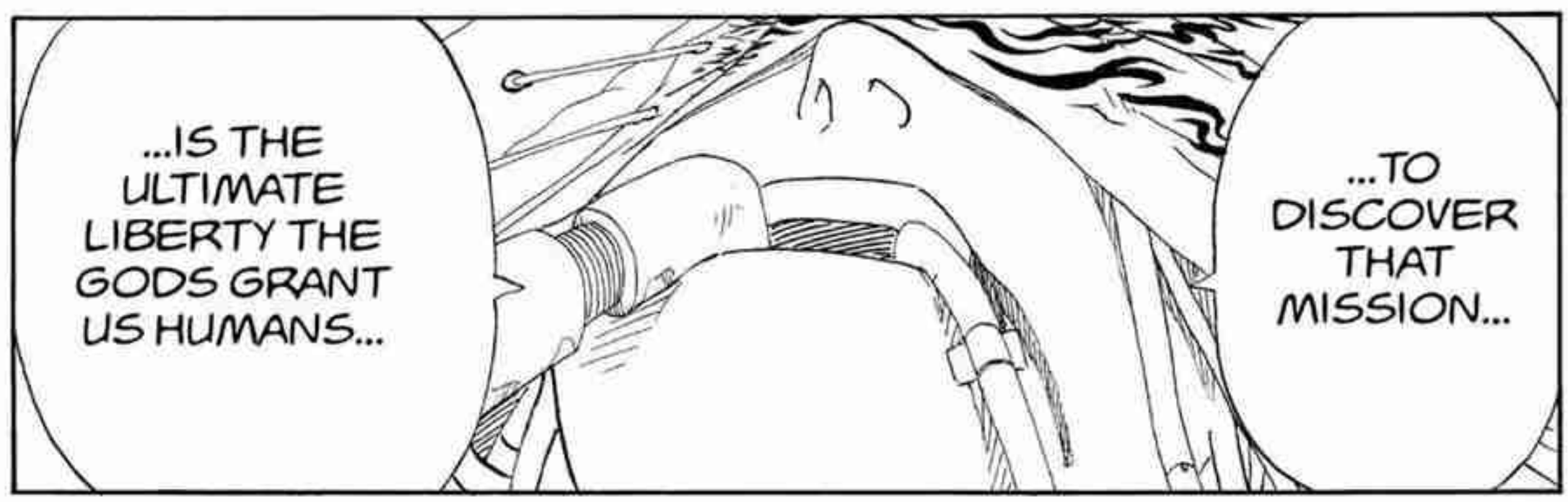

...

...DON'T SPEAK...

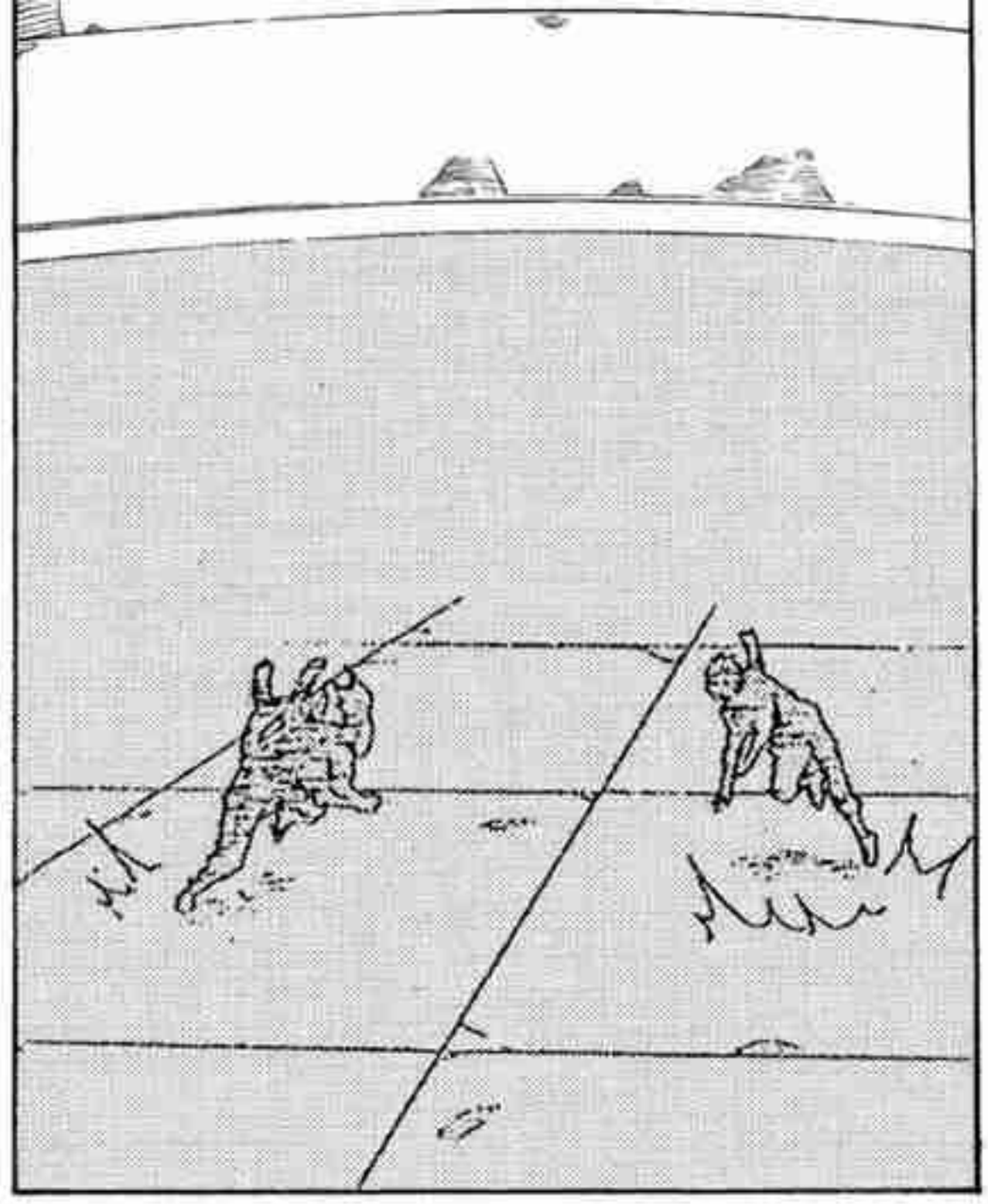
...WHY... ARE WE BORN?
I WONDER...

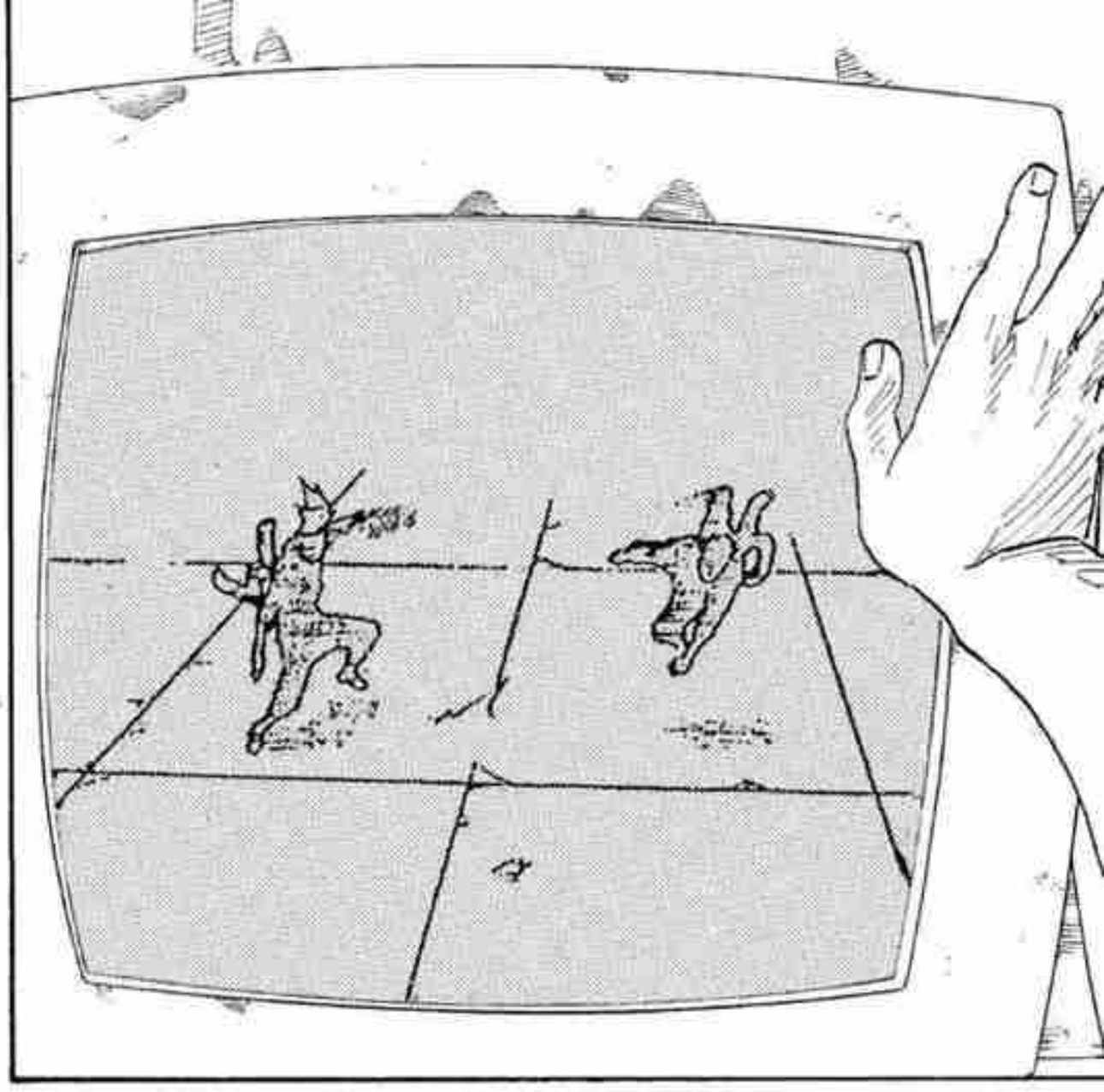
...!

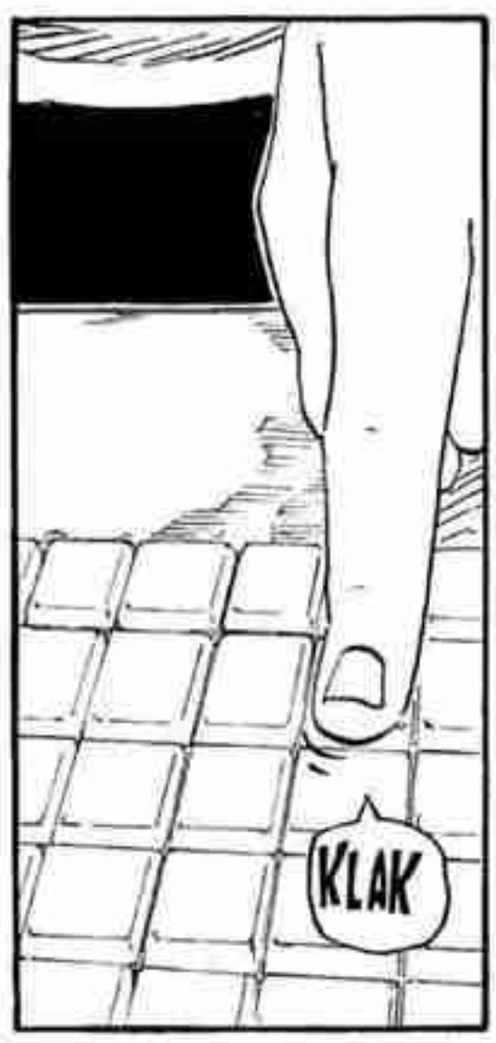
DO WE ALL CARRY SOME IMPORTANT MISSION WITHIN US...

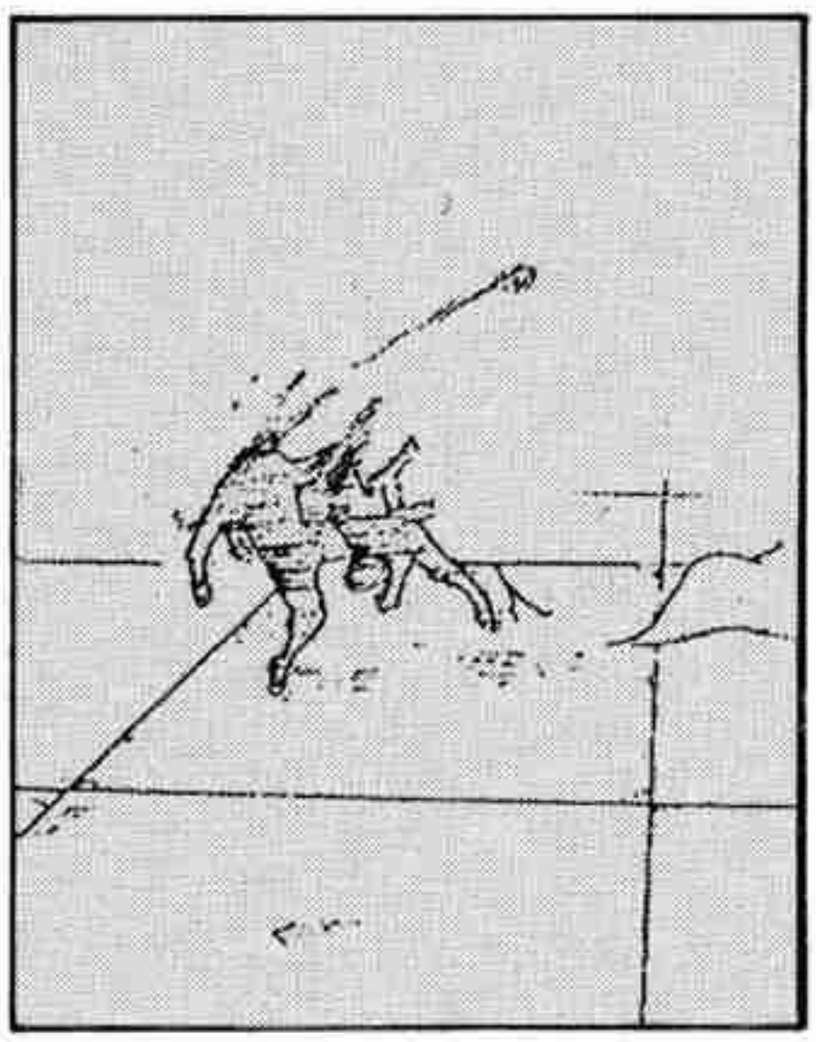

...IS THE ULTIMATE LIBERTY THE GODS GRANT US HUMANS...
...TO DISCOVER THAT MISSION...

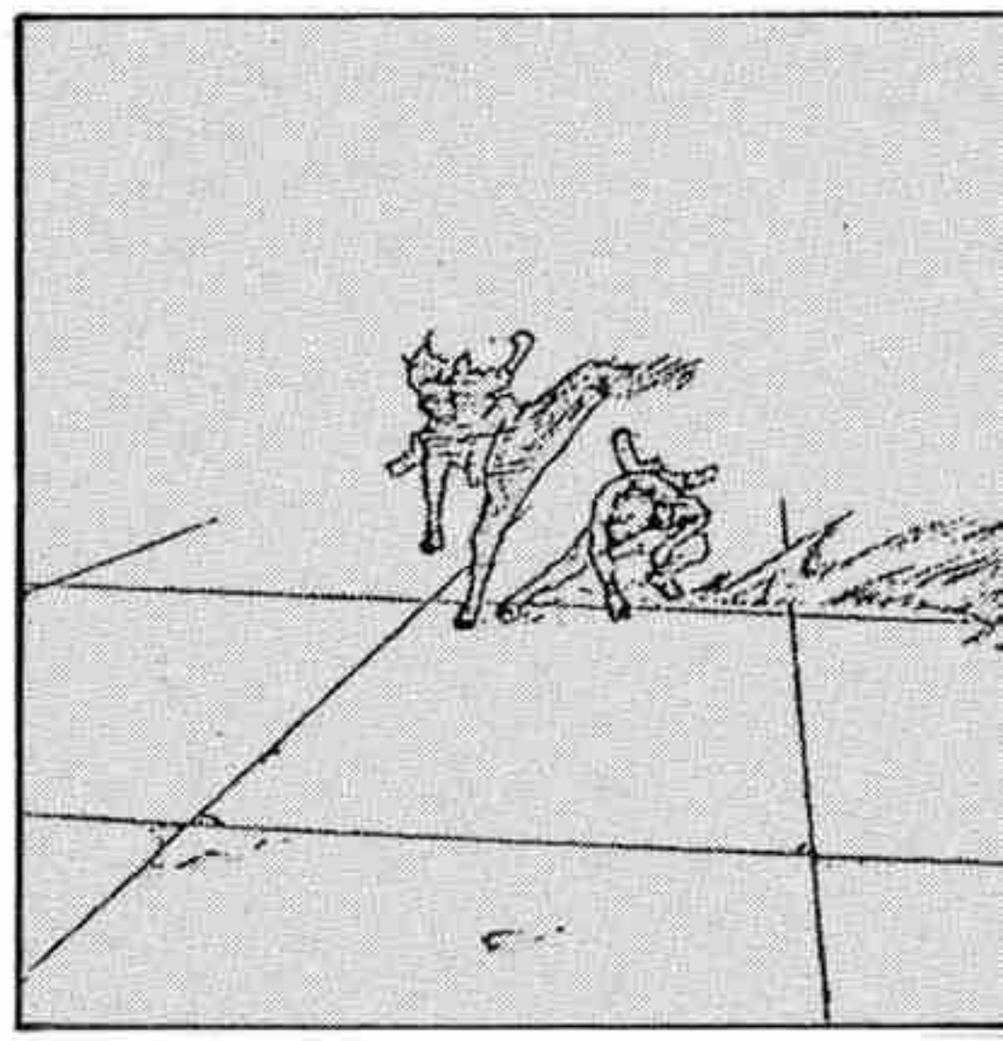
READ THIS WAY
...WHAT CAN YOU DO IN YOUR CURRENT STATE?
BUT I'M GOING TO BE BRUTALLY CLEAR...
YOUR VALUE AS A VESSEL IS LONG LOST...
LORD OROCHIMARU IS IN A GREAT DEAL OF PAIN RIGHT NOW.
I UNDERSTAND...
THIS IS A TRUE DILEMMA...
...ON HIS WAY NOW.
THERE IS A NEW VESSEL...
...
...HE'S TOO LATE AT THIS POINT AS WELL.
ALTHOUGH ...

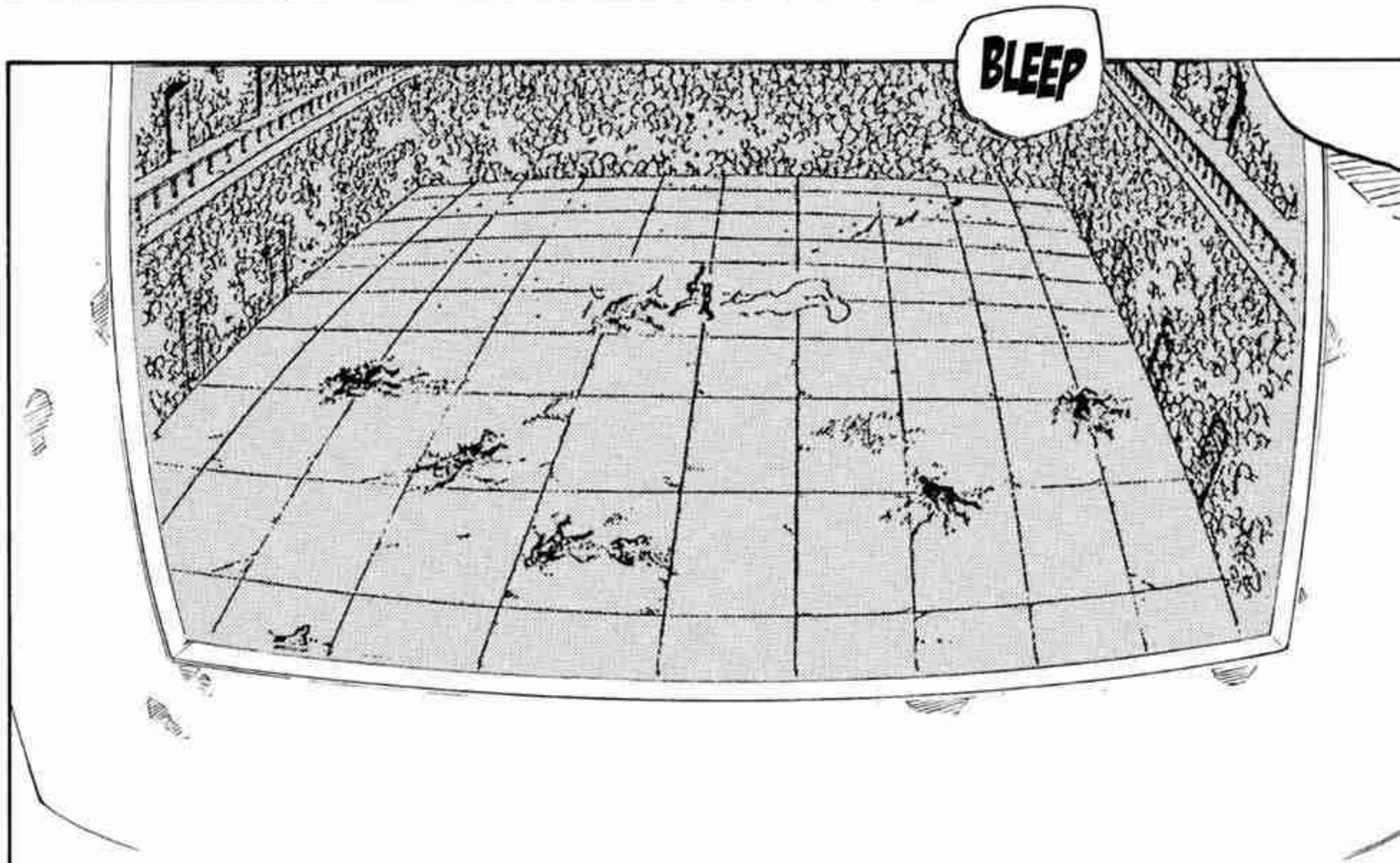




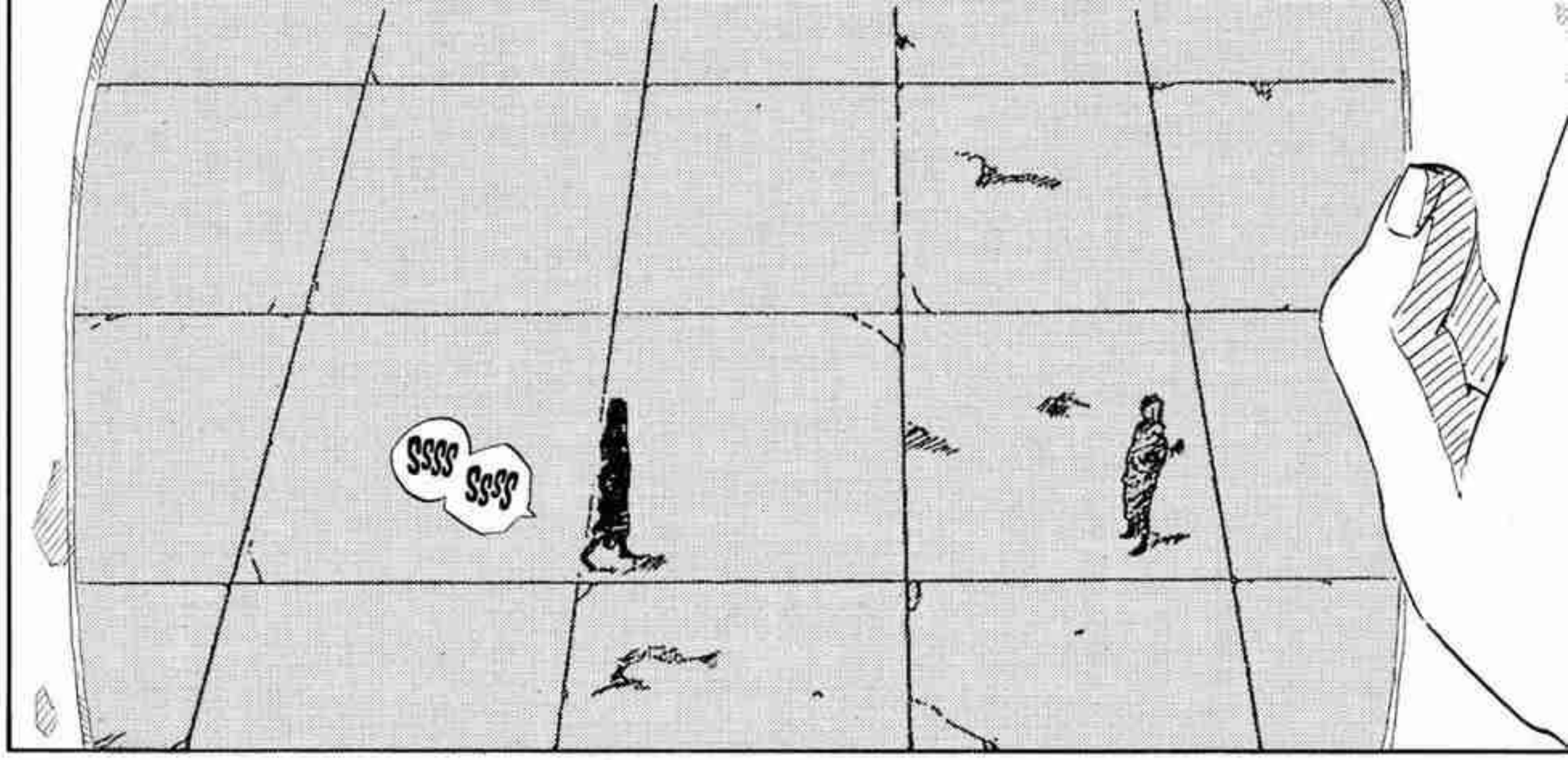

KLAK

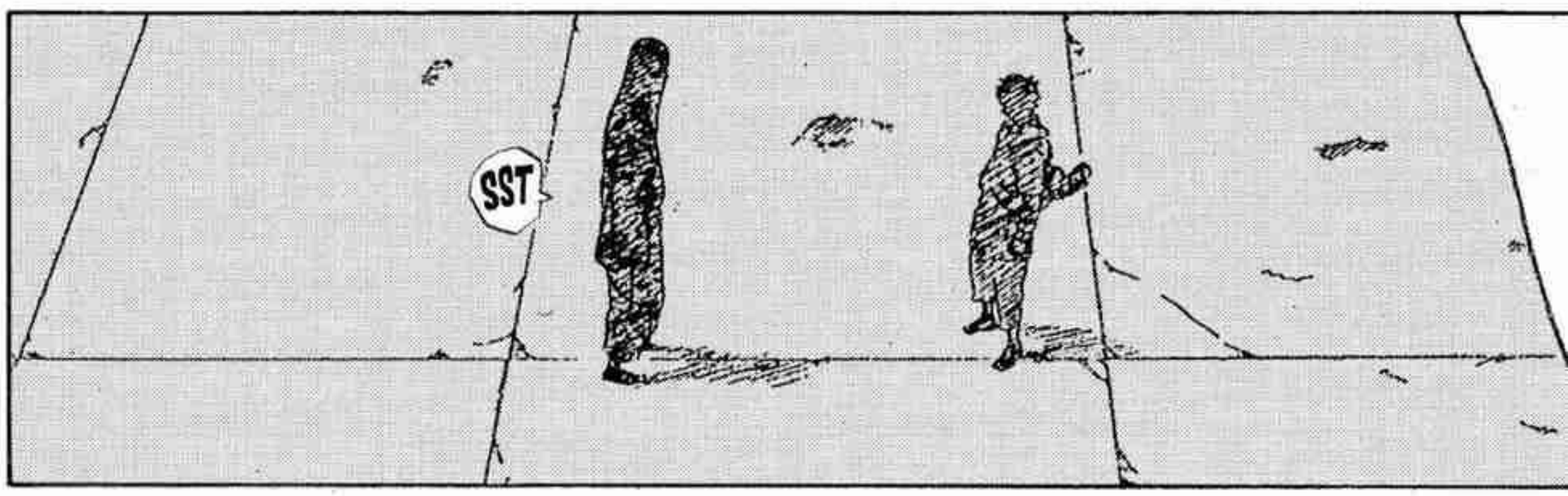


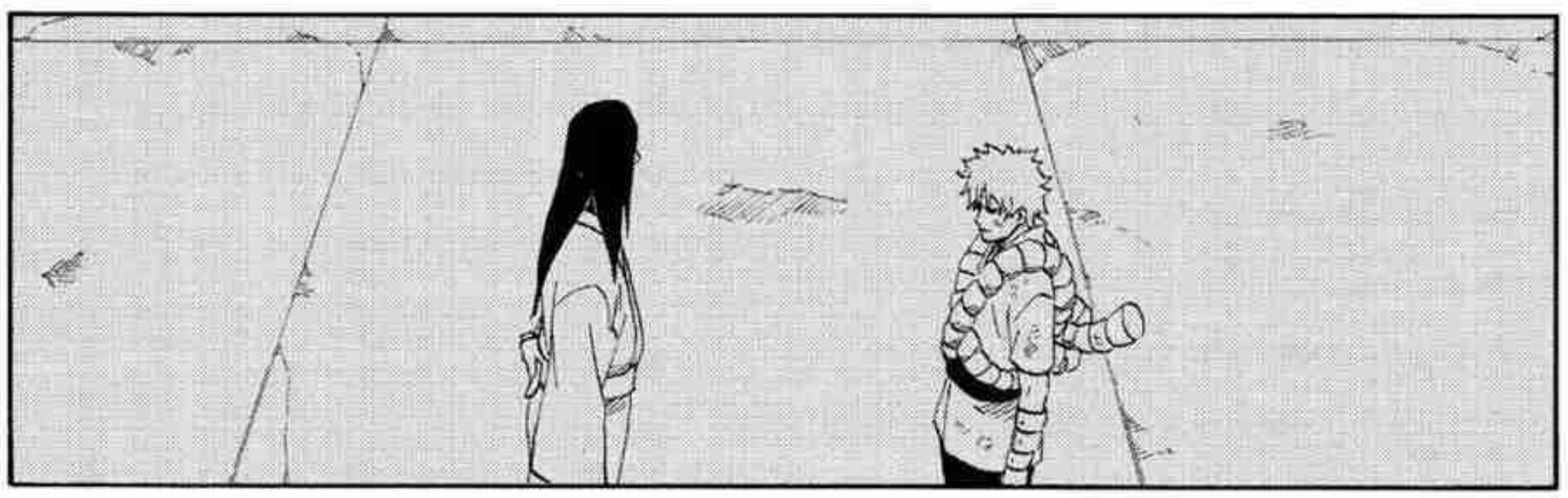


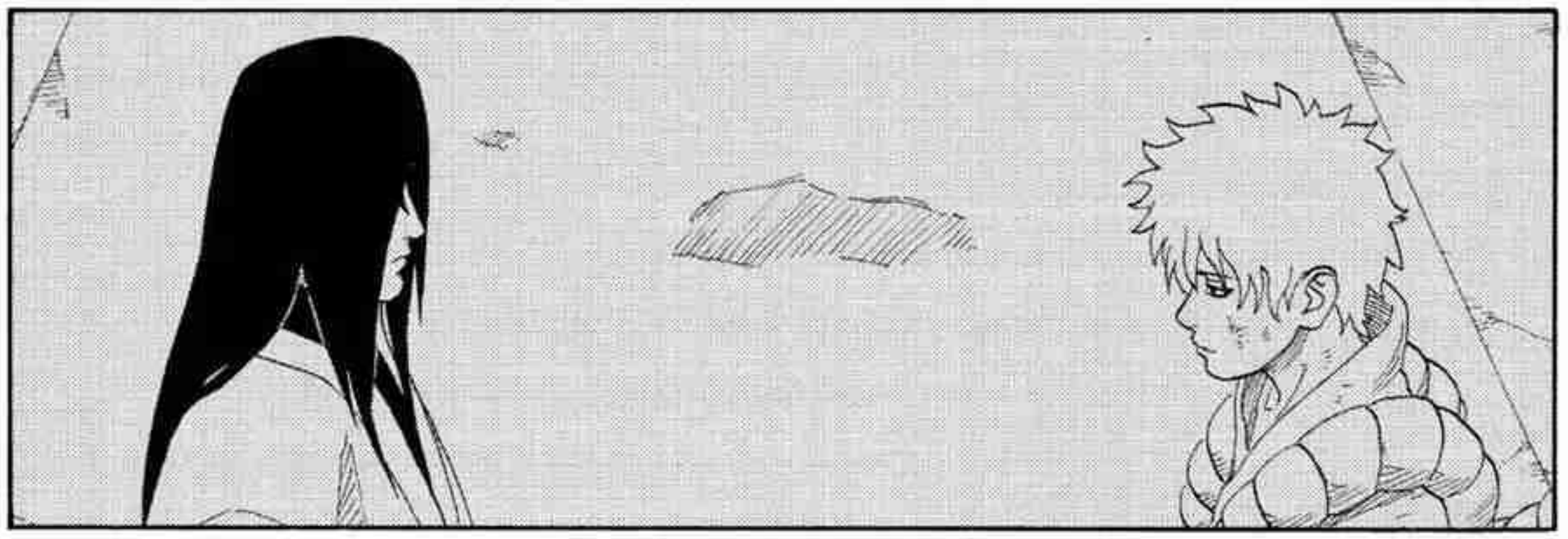

BLEEP

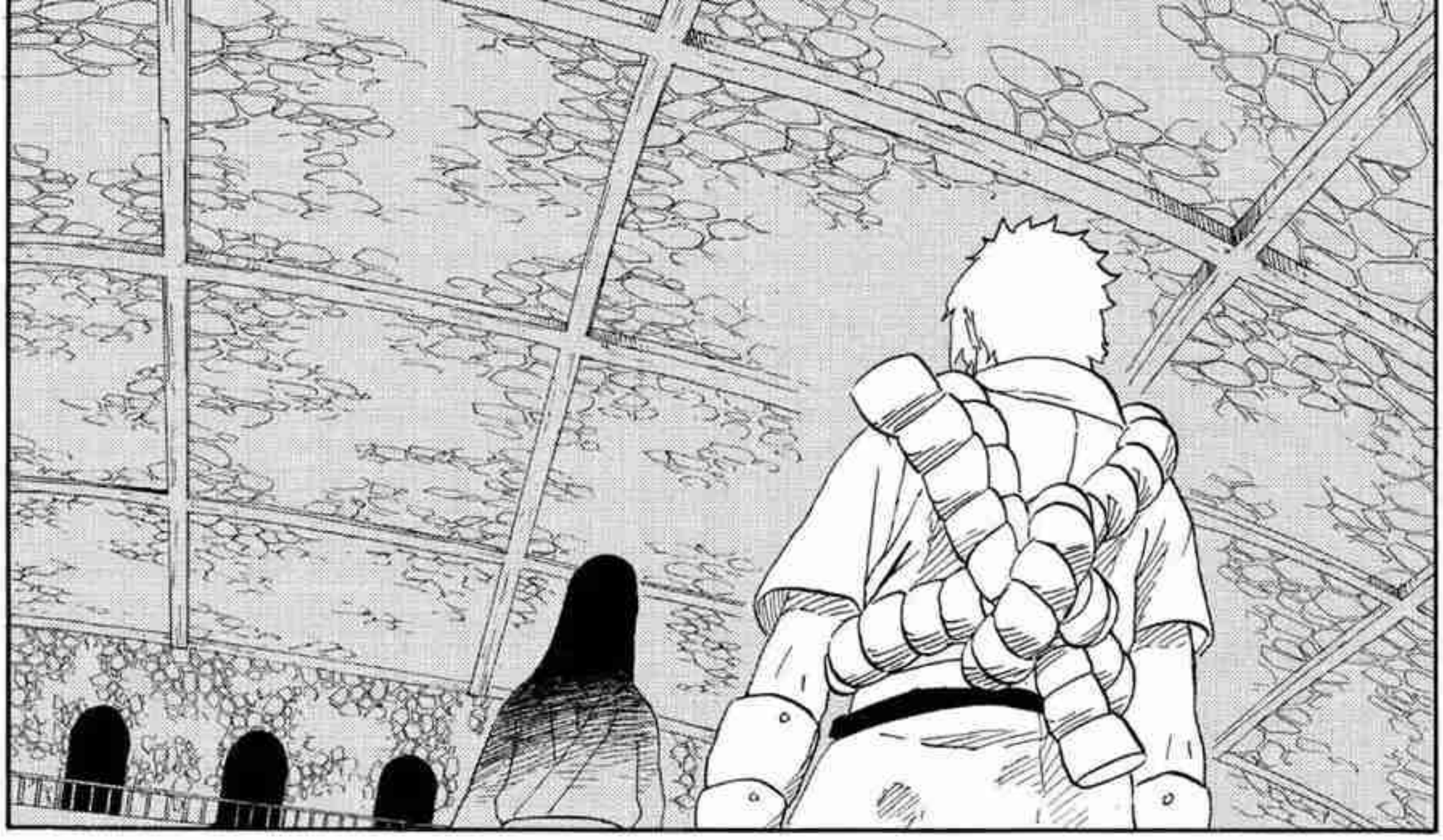
READ THIS WAY
YOU BETTER KEEP YOUR WORD!
NOW! YOU PROMISED TO LET ME OUT OF HERE!
BLIP
WHAT'S GOING ON?! HURRY UP AND OPEN THE DOOR!!
BLIP
...
BLIP
CLANG
!
BLIP
SSSS SSSS


SSSS SSSS


SST

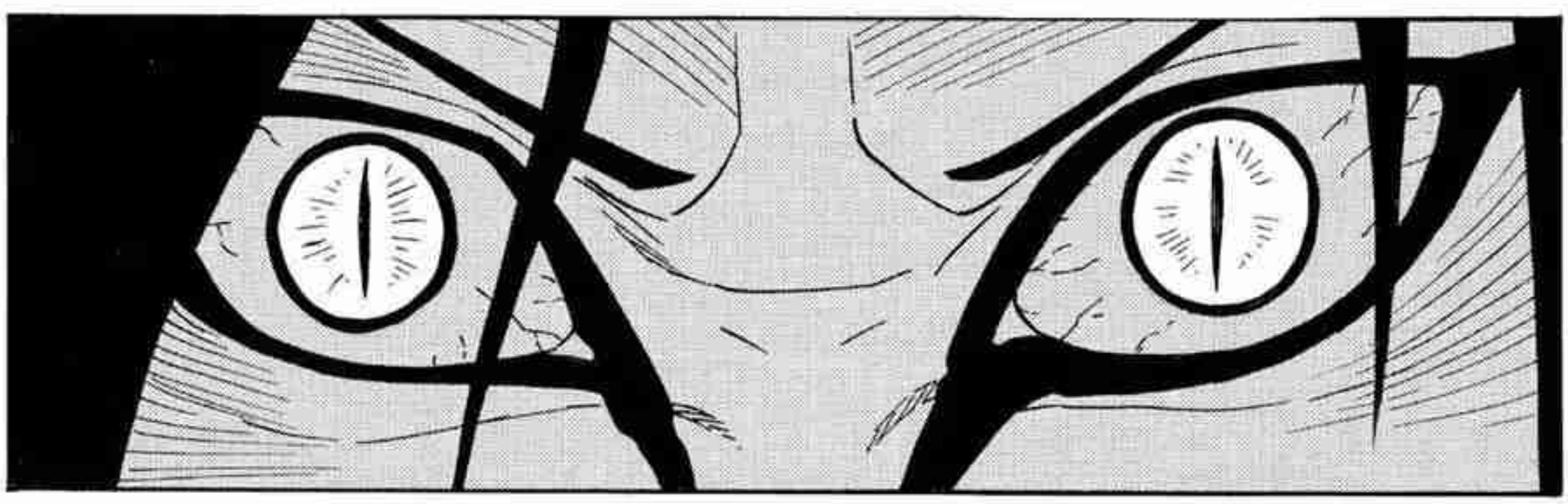






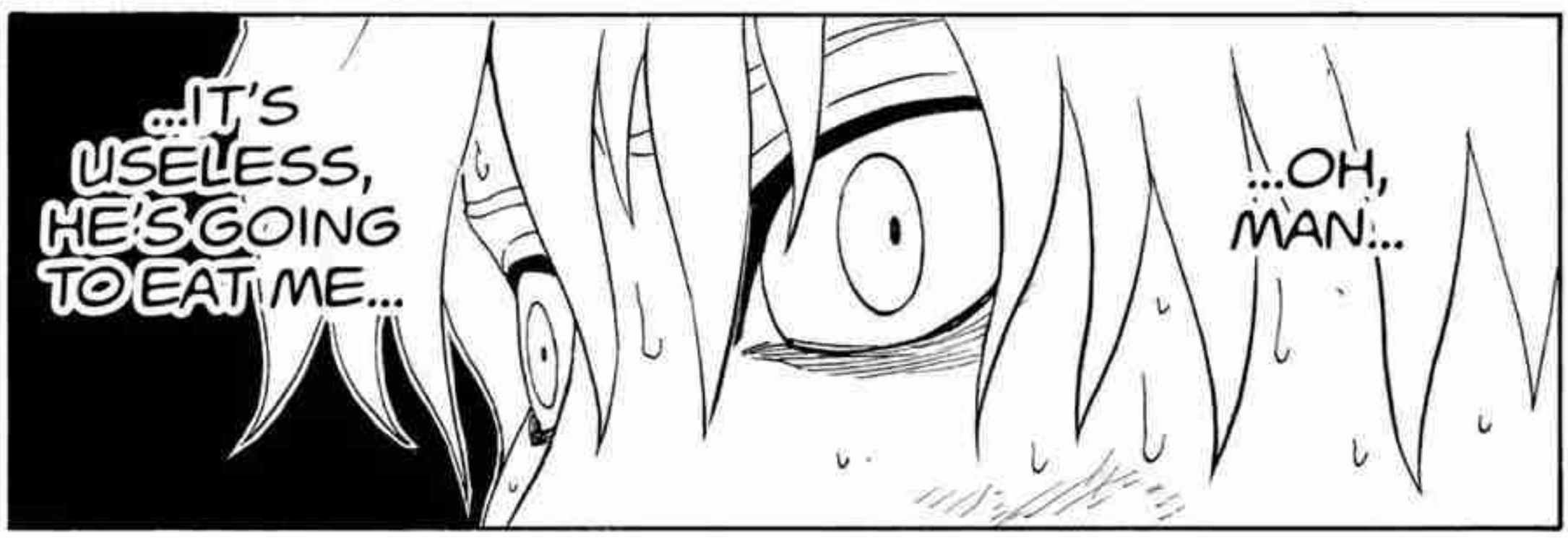
?!!

FINE, LET'S...
THERE WAS ONE MORE OF YOU...?
WHAT?!



...

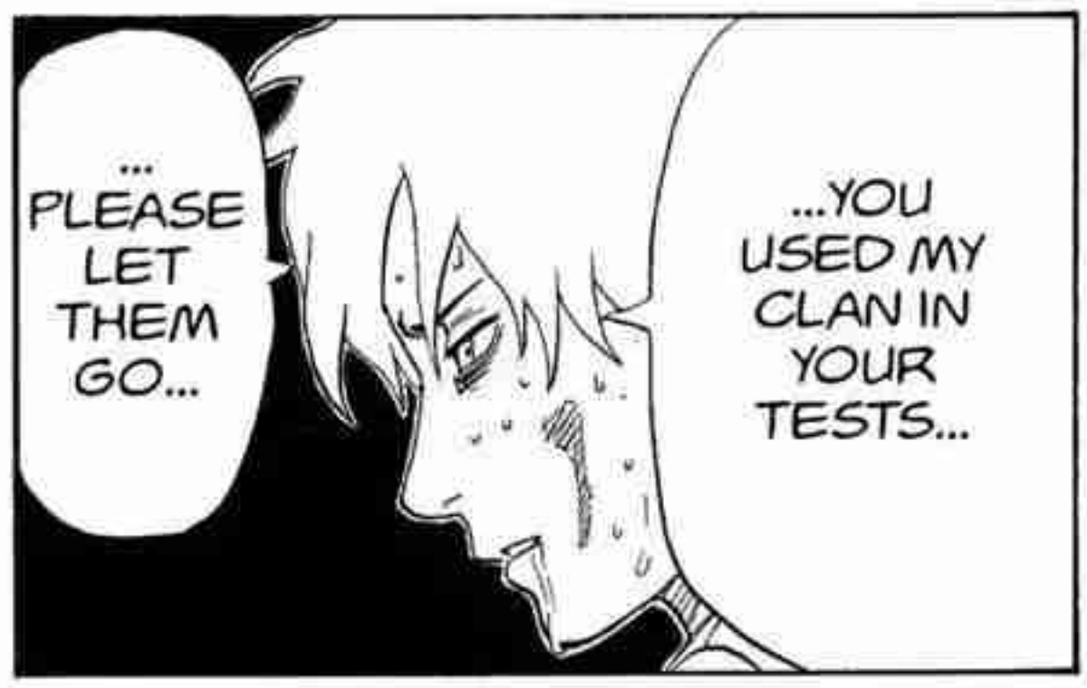
SLITHER...

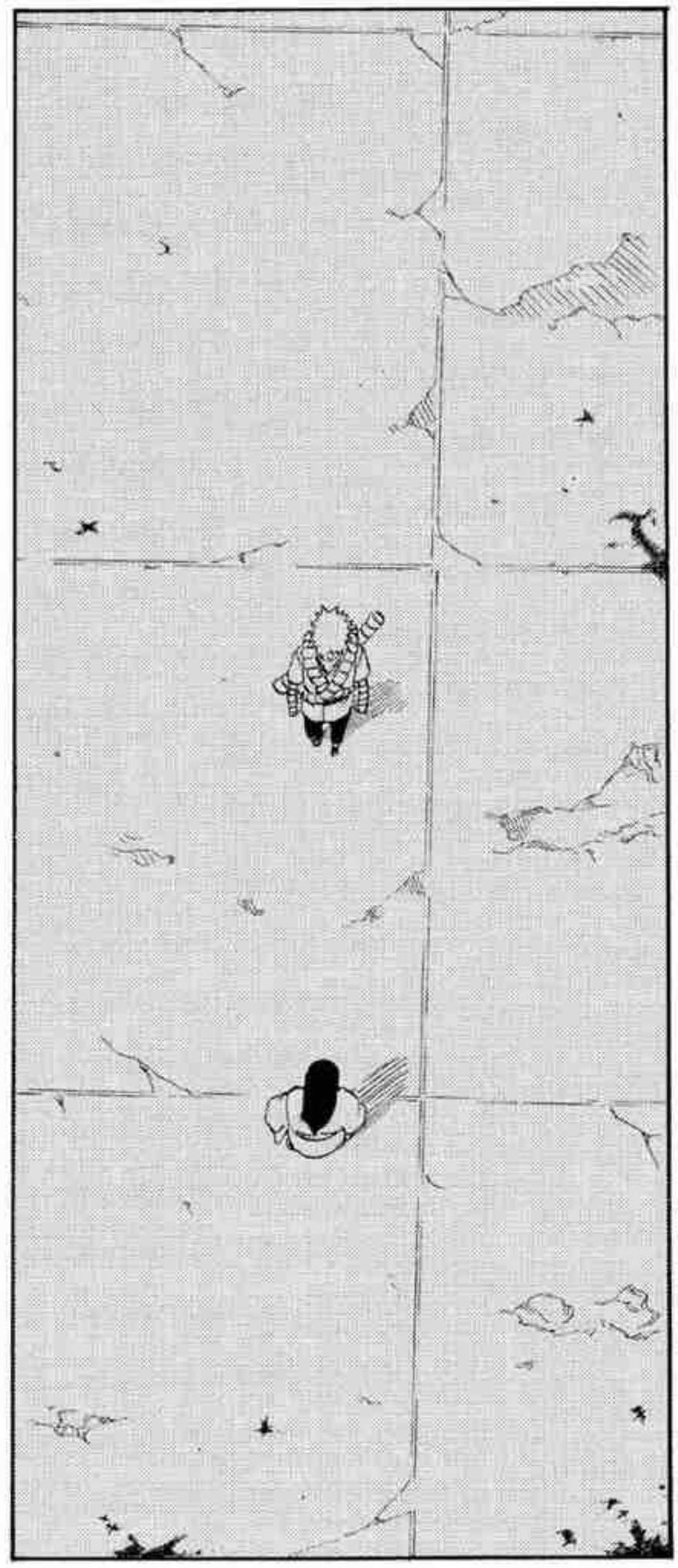

...IT'S USELESS, HE'S GOING TO EAT ME...
...OH, MAN...

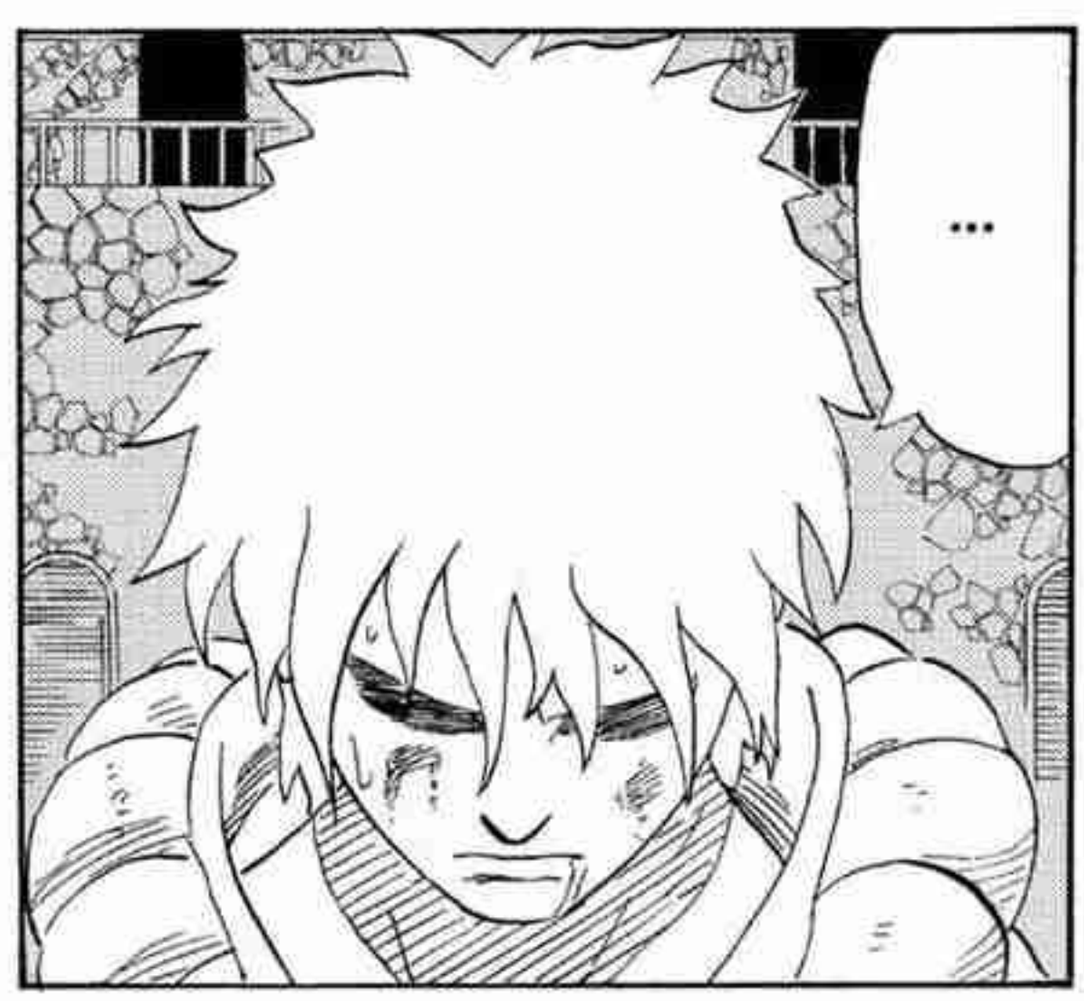
WOOSH
!

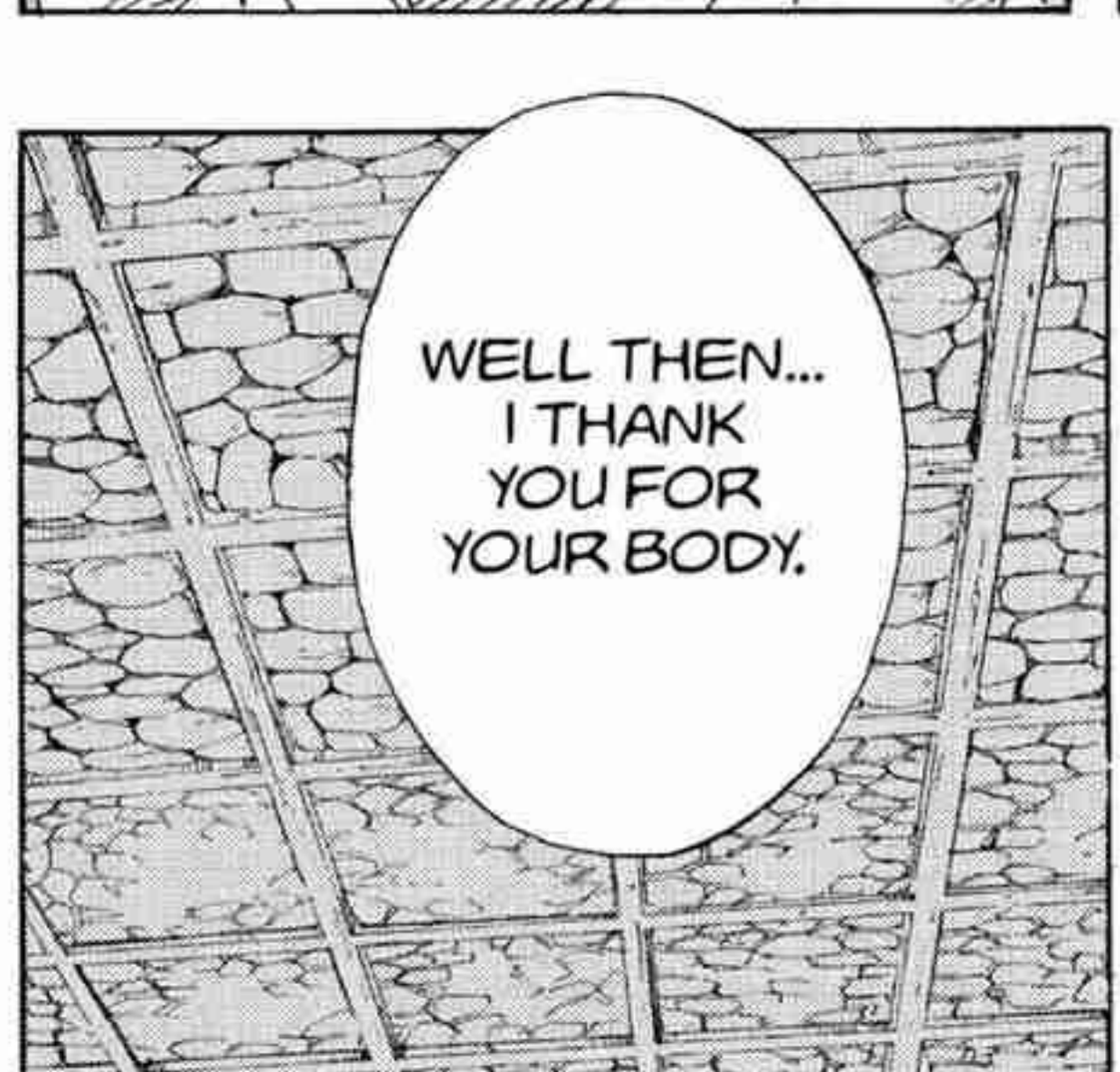
HO HO... DON'T WORRY, I WILL LET YOU OUT OF HERE... AND I'LL GRANT YOU ONE WISH AS WELL.

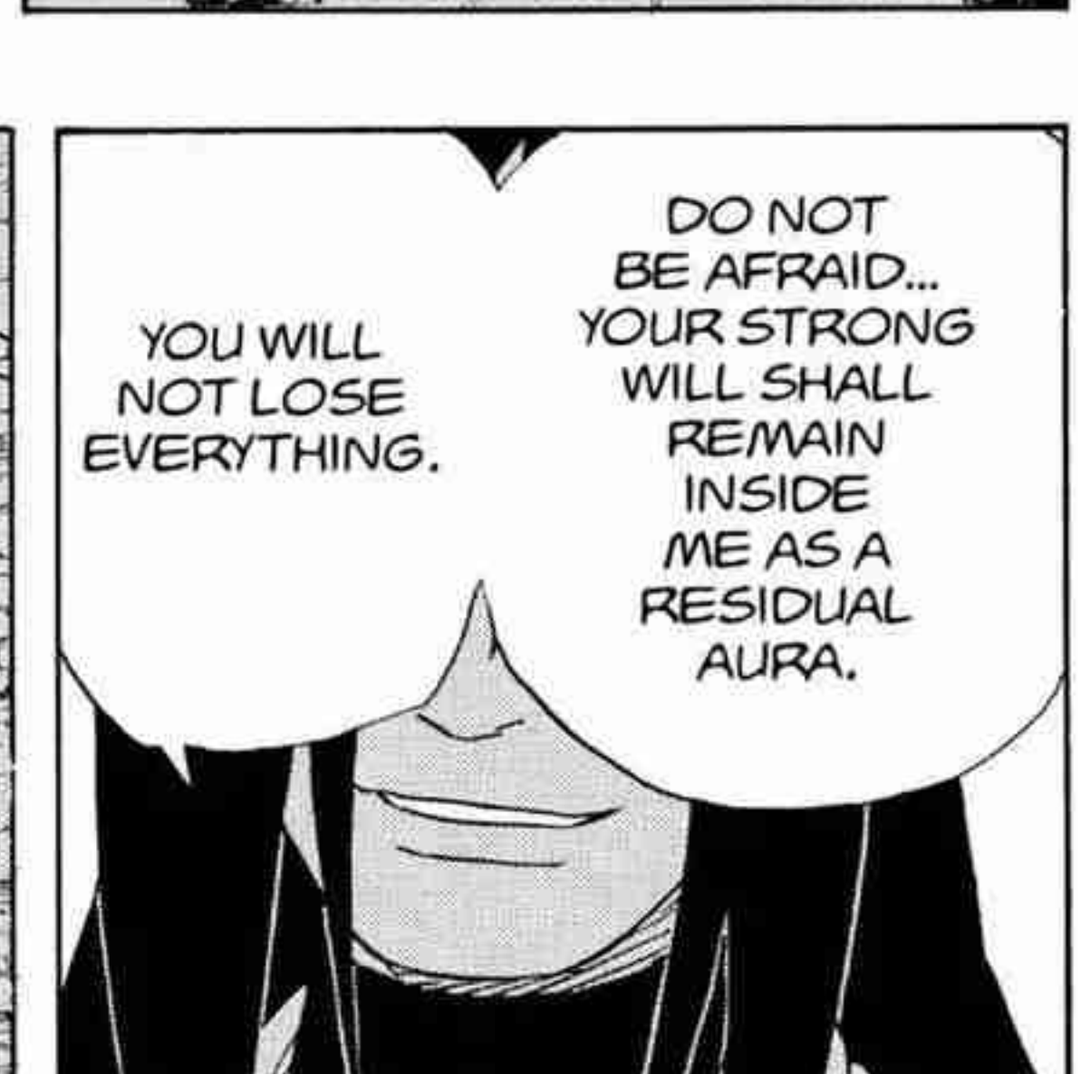
READ THIS WAY



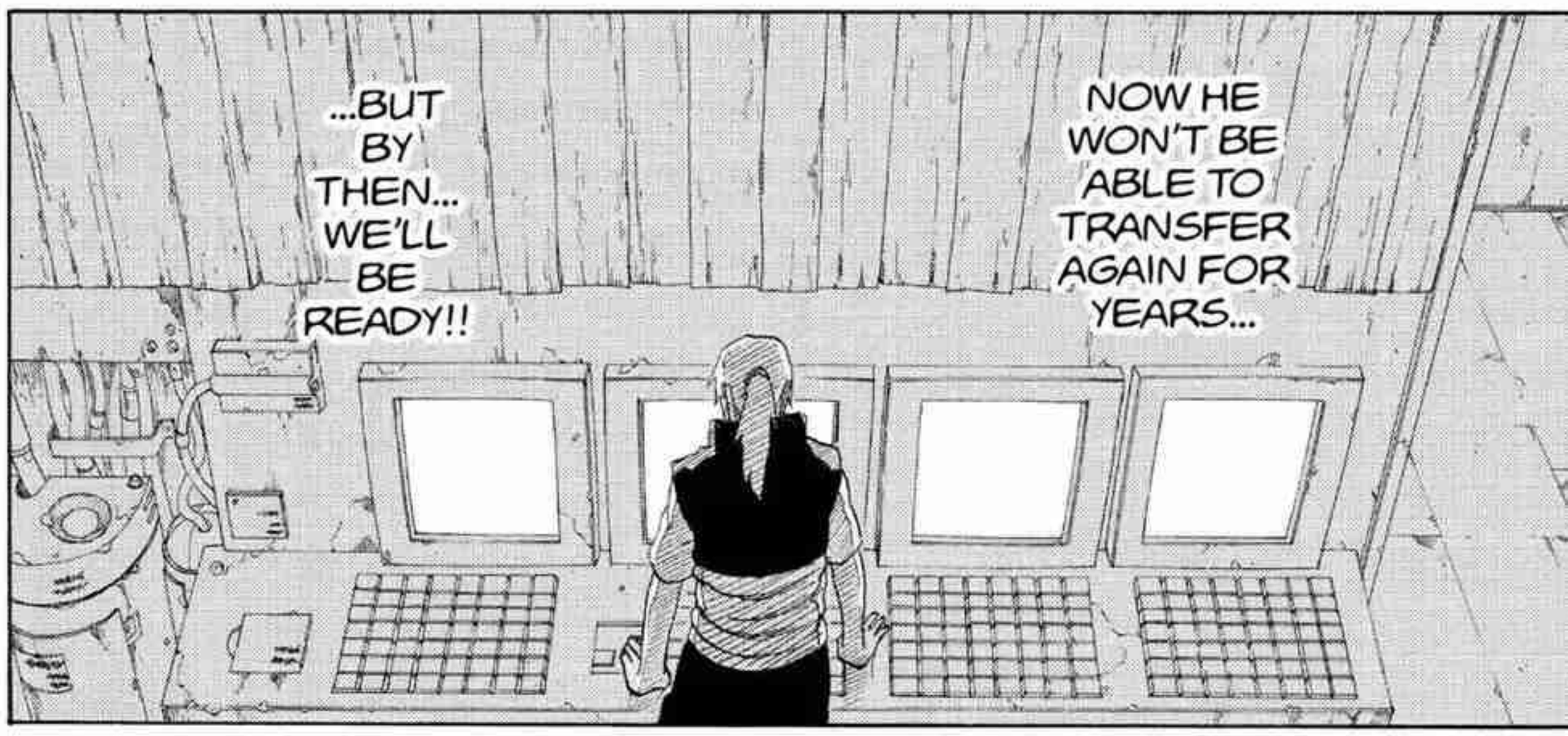





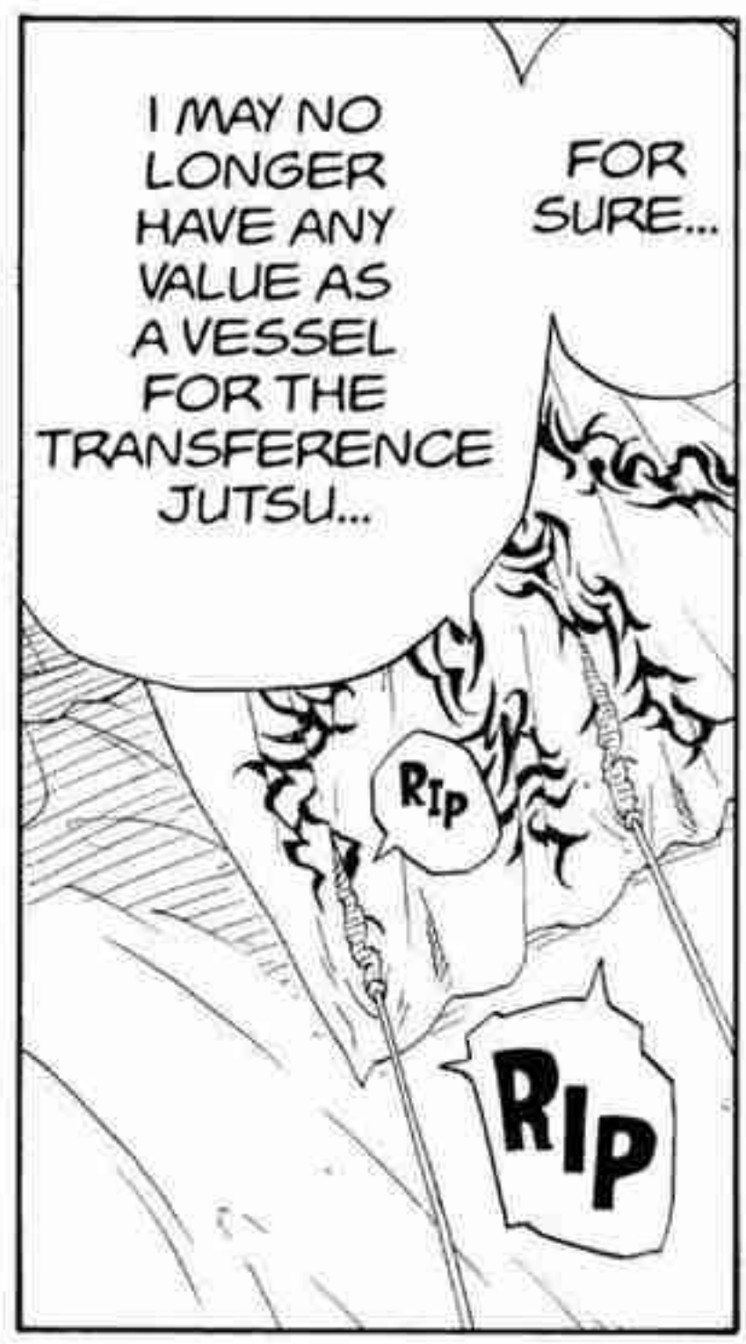



AAAAAAGH!!!


...BUT BY THEN... WE'LL BE READY!!
NOW HE WON'T BE ABLE TO TRANSFER AGAIN FOR YEARS...

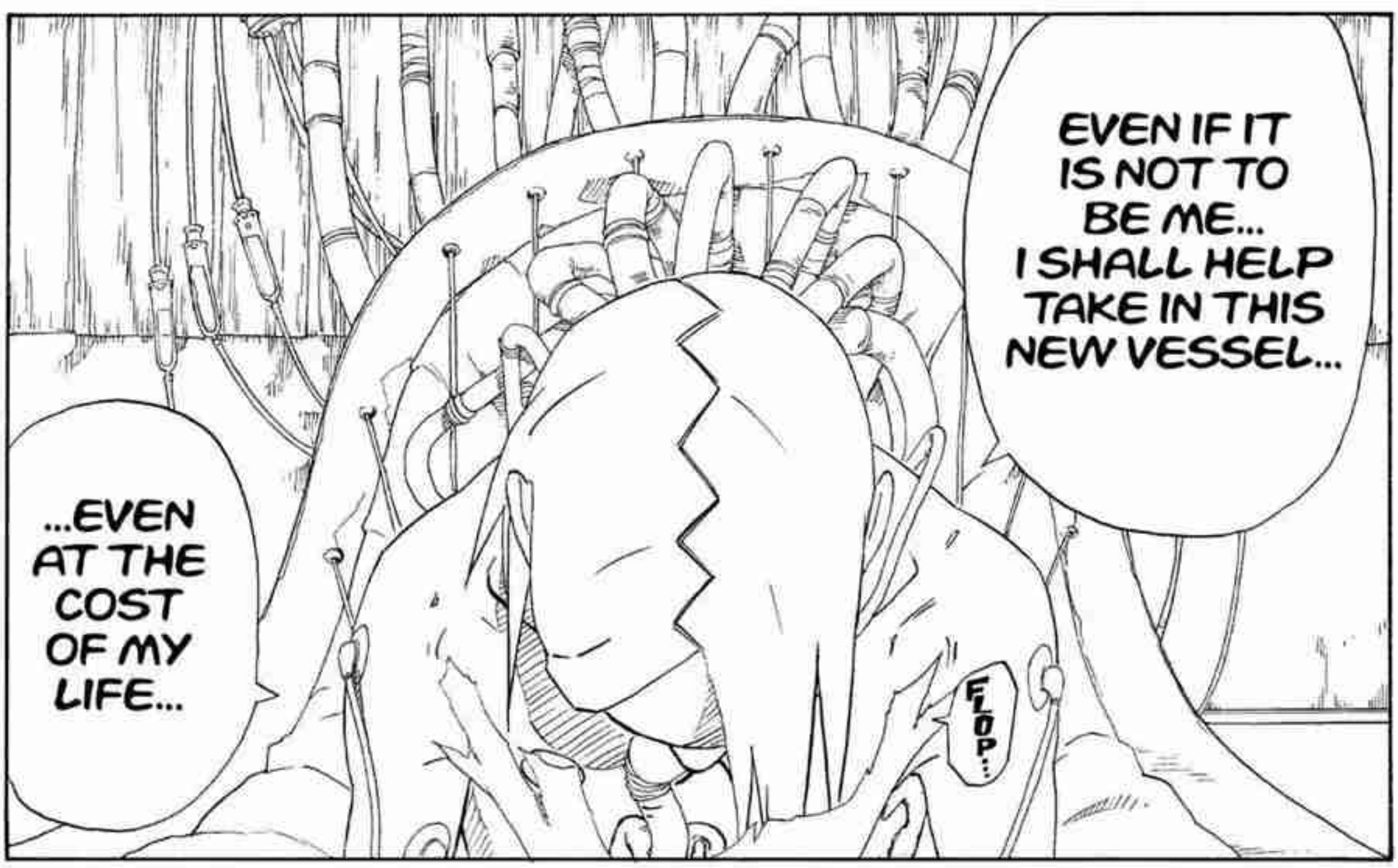
...AND IT IS DIFFICULT FOR ME TO IDENTIFY MY TRUE PURPOSE WHEN I'VE LOST EVERYTHING...
SNAP


I MAY NO LONGER HAVE ANY VALUE AS A VESSEL FOR THE TRANSFERENCE JUTSU...
FOR SURE...
RIP
RIP

...

READ THIS WAY
?

...BUT... I THINK I'VE FINALLY FIGURED IT OUT...
UNNH


EVEN IF IT IS NOT TO BE ME... I SHALL HELP TAKE IN THIS NEW VESSEL...
...EVEN AT THE COST OF MY LIFE...
FLOP...

...AND THE LEAST I CAN DO...

IT IS... THE BEST WAY FOR ME TO REPAY LORD OROCHIMARU...

KLUNK
!

SHOOM

ARE WE CLOSE?
SCREECH

HEY, HOLD UP!

!

NO... IT'S WAY TOO SOON... SOMETHING ELSE!
SCREECH

WHAT HAVE THOSE FOOLS JIROBO AND KIDOMARU BEEN DOING?!

...

CAUGHT UP TO YA!

I'LL KILL YA ALL IN NO TIME!!
FINE! HAVE IT YOUR WAY!
FU
OSH
TO BE CONTINUED IN NARUTO VOLUME 23!